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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US97/02187 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 6 February 1997 (06.02.97) <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 08/597,313      6 February 1996 (06.02.96)      US  <b>(60) Parent Application or Grant</b> <b>(63) Related by Continuation</b> US      08/597,313 (CON) Filed on      6 February 1996 (06.02.96)  <b>(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US):</b> CARNEGIE INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON [US/US]; 1530 P. Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20016 (US). MONSANTO COMPANY, INC. [US/US]; 700 Chesterfield Parkway North, St. Louis, MO 63198 (US).  <b>(72) Inventors; and</b> <b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> BROUN, Pierre [FR/US]; 1249 Capuchino, Burlingame, CA 94010 (US). VAN DE LOO, Frank [AU/AU]; 11 Fowles Street, Weston, ACT 2611 (AU). BODDUPALLI, Sekhar, S. [IN/US]; 572 Enchanted Parkway, Manchester, MO 63021 (US).		SOMERVILLE, Chris [US/US]; 5 Valley Oak, Portola Valley, CA 94028 (US).  <b>(74) Agents:</b> KOKULIS, Paul, N. et al.; Cushman Darby & Cushman, Intellectual Property Group of Pillsbury Madison & Sutro, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005 (US).  <b>(81) Designated States:</b> AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
<b>(54) Title:</b> PRODUCTION OF HYDROXYLATED FATTY ACIDS IN GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS		
<b>(57) Abstract</b> <p>This invention relates to plant fatty acid hydroxylases. Methods to use conserved amino acid or nucleotide sequences to obtain plant fatty acid hydroxylases are described. Also described is the use of cDNA clones encoding a plant hydroxylase to produce a family of hydroxylated fatty acids in transgenic plants. In addition, the use of genes encoding fatty acid hydroxylases or desaturases to alter the level of lipid fatty acid unsaturation in transgenic plants is described.</p>		

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**PRODUCTION OF HYDROXYLATED FATTY ACIDS  
IN GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS**

**TECHNICAL FIELD**

The present invention concerns the  
5 identification of nucleic acid sequences and  
constructs, and methods related thereto, and the use  
of these sequences and constructs to produce  
genetically modified plants for the purpose of  
altering the fatty acid composition of plant oils,  
10 waxes and related compounds.

**DEFINITIONS**

The subject of this invention is a class of  
enzymes that introduce a hydroxyl group into several  
different fatty acids resulting in the production of  
15 several different kinds of hydroxylated fatty acids.  
In particular, these enzymes catalyze hydroxylation  
of oleic acid to 12-hydroxy oleic acid and icosenoic  
acid to 14-hydroxy icosenoic acid. Other fatty acids  
such as palmitoleic and erucic acids may also be  
20 substrates. Since it is not possible to refer to the  
enzyme by reference to a unique substrate or  
product, the enzyme is referred throughout as kappa  
hydroxylase to indicate that the enzyme introduces  
the hydroxyl three carbons distal (i.e., away from  
25 the carboxyl carbon of the acyl chain) from a double  
bond located near the center of the acyl chain.

The following fatty acids are also the  
subject of this invention: ricinoleic acid, 12-  
hydroxyoctadec-*cis*-9-enoic acid (12OH-18:1<sup>cis9</sup>);  
30 lesquerolic acid, 14-hydroxy-*cis*-11-icosenoic acid  
(14OH-20:1<sup>cis11</sup>); densipolic acid, 12-hydroxyoctadec-  
*cis*-9,15-dienoic acid (12OH-18:2<sup>cis9,15</sup>); auricolic  
acid, 14-hydroxy-*cis*-11,17-icosadienoic acid (14OH-

20:2<sup>cisΔ11,17</sup>); hydroxyerucic, 16-hydroxydocos-cis-13-  
enoic acid (16OH-22:1<sup>cisΔ13</sup>); hydroxypalmitoleic, 12-  
hydroxyhexadec-cis-9-enoic (12OH-16:1<sup>cisΔ9</sup>); icosenoic  
acid (20:1<sup>cisΔ11</sup>). It will be noted that icosenoic acid  
5 is spelled eicosenoic acid in some countries.

#### BACKGROUND

Extensive surveys of the fatty acid  
composition of seed oils from different species of  
higher plants have resulted in the identification of  
10 at least 33 structurally distinct monohydroxylated  
plant fatty acids, and 12 different polyhydroxylated  
fatty acids that are accumulated by one or more  
plant species (reviewed by van de Loo et al., 1993).  
Ricinoleic acid, the principal constituent of the  
15 seed oil from the castor plant *Ricinus communis*  
(L.), is of commercial importance. The present  
inventors have cloned a gene from this species that  
encodes a fatty acid hydroxylase, and have used this  
gene to produce ricinoleic acid in transgenic plants  
20 of other species. Some of this scientific evidence  
has been published by the present inventors (van de  
Loo et al., 1995).

The use of the castor hydroxylase gene to  
also produce other hydroxylated fatty acids such as  
25 lesquerolic acid, densipolic acid,  
hydroxypalmitoleic, hydroxyerucic and auricolic acid  
in transgenic plants is the subject of this  
invention. In addition, the identification of a gene  
encoding a homologous hydroxylase from *Lesquerella*  
30 *fendleri*, and the use of this gene to produce these  
hydroxylated fatty acids in transgenic plants is the  
subject of this invention.



Castor is a minor oilseed crop. Approximately 50% of the seed weight is oil (triacylglycerol) in which 85-90% of total fatty acids are the hydroxylated fatty acid, ricinoleic acid. Oil  
5 pressed or extracted from castor seeds has many industrial uses based upon the properties endowed by the hydroxylated fatty acid. The most important uses are production of paints and varnishes, nylon-type synthetic polymers, resins, lubricants, and  
10 cosmetics (Atsmon, 1989).

In addition to oil, the castor seed contains the extremely toxic protein ricin, allergenic proteins, and the alkaloid ricinine. These constituents preclude the use of the untreated seed  
15 meal (following oil extraction) as a livestock feed, normally an important economic aspect of oilseed utilization. Furthermore, with the variable nature of castor plants and a lack of investment in breeding, castor has few favorable agronomic  
20 characteristics.

For a combination of these reasons, castor is no longer grown in the United States and the development of an alternative domestic source of hydroxylated fatty acids would be attractive. The  
25 production of ricinoleic acid, the important constituent of castor oil, in an established oilseed crop through genetic engineering would be a particularly effective means of creating a domestic source.

30 Because there is no practical source of lesquerolic, densipolic and auricolic acids from plants that are adapted to modern agricultural practices, there is currently no large-scale use of these fatty acids by industry. However, the fatty

acids would have uses similar to those of ricinoleic acid if they could be produced in large quantities at comparable cost to other plant-derived fatty acids (Smith, 1985).

5           Plant species, such as certain species in the genus *Lesquerella*, that accumulate a high proportion of these fatty acids, have not been domesticated and are not currently considered a practical source of fatty acids (Hirsinger, 1989). This invention  
10 represents a useful step toward the eventual production of these and other hydroxylated fatty acids in transgenic plants of agricultural importance.

          The taxonomic relationships between plants  
15 having similar or identical kinds of unusual fatty acids have been examined (van de Loo et al., 1993). In some cases, particular fatty acids occur mostly or solely in related taxa. In other cases there does not appear to be a direct link between taxonomic  
20 relationships and the occurrence of unusual fatty acids. In this respect, ricinoleic acid has now been identified in 12 genera from 10 families (reviewed in van de Loo et al., 1993). Thus, it appears that the ability to synthesize hydroxylated fatty acids  
25 has evolved several times independently during the radiation of the angiosperms. This suggested to us that the enzymes which introduce hydroxyl groups into fatty acids arose by minor modifications of a related enzyme.

30           Indeed, as shown herein, the sequence similarity between  $\Delta 12$  fatty acid desaturases and the kappa hydroxylase from castor is so high that it is not possible to unambiguously determine whether a particular enzyme is a desaturase or a hydroxylase

on the basis of evidence in the scientific literature. Similarly, a patent application (PCT WO 94/11516) that purports to teach the isolation and use of  $\Delta 12$  fatty acid desaturases does not teach how to distinguish a hydroxylase from a desaturase. In view of the importance of being able to distinguish between these activities for the purpose of genetic engineering of plant oils, the utility of that application is limited to the several instances where direct experimental evidence (e.g., altered fatty acid composition in transgenic plants) was presented to support the assignment of function. A method for distinguishing between fatty acid desaturases and fatty acid hydroxylases on the basis of amino acid sequence of the enzyme is also a subject of this invention.

A feature of hydroxylated or other unusual fatty acids is that they are generally confined to seed triacylglycerols, being largely excluded from the polar lipids by unknown mechanisms (Battey and Ohlrogge 1989; Prasad et al., 1987). This is particularly intriguing since diacylglycerol is a precursor of both triacylglycerol and polar lipid. With castor microsomes, there is some evidence that the pool of ricinoleoyl-containing polar lipid is minimized by a preference of diacylglycerol acyltransferase for ricinoleate-containing diacylglycerols (Bafor et al., 1991). Analyses of vegetative tissues have generated few reports of unusual fatty acids, other than those occurring in the cuticle. The cuticle contains various hydroxylated fatty acids which are interesterified to produce a high molecular weight polyester which serves a structural role. A small number of other

exceptions exist in which unusual fatty acids are found in tissues other than the seed.

The biosynthesis of ricinoleic acid from oleic acid in the developing endosperm of castor  
5 (*Ricinus communis*) has been studied by a variety of methods. Morris (1967) established in double-labeling studies that hydroxylation occurs directly by hydroxyl substitution rather than via an unsaturated-, keto- or epoxy-intermediate.  
10 Hydroxylation using oleoyl-CoA as precursor can be demonstrated in crude preparations or microsomes, but activity in microsomes is unstable and variable, and isolation of the microsomes involved a considerable, or sometimes complete loss of activity  
15 (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966; Moreau and Stumpf, 1981). Oleic acid can replace oleoyl-CoA as a precursor, but only in the presence of CoA,  $Mg^{2+}$  and ATP (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966) indicating that activation to the acyl-CoA is necessary. However, no  
20 radioactivity could be detected in ricinoleoyl-CoA (Moreau and Stumpf, 1981). These and more recent observations (Bafor et al., 1991) have been interpreted as evidence that the substrate for the castor oleate hydroxylase is oleic acid esterified  
25 to phosphatidylcholine or another phospholipid.

The hydroxylase is sensitive to cyanide and azide, and dialysis against metal chelators reduces activity, which could be restored by addition of  $FeSO_4$ , suggesting iron involvement in enzyme activity  
30 (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966). Ricinoleic acid synthesis requires molecular oxygen (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966; Moreau and Stumpf 1981) and requires NAD(P)H to reduce cytochrome b5 which is thought to be the intermediate electron donor for the

hydroxylase reaction (Smith et al., 1992). Carbon  
monoxide does not inhibit hydroxylation, indicating  
that a cytochrome P450 is not involved (Galliard and  
Stumpf, 1966; Moreau and Stumpf 1981). Data from a  
5 study of the substrate specificity of the  
hydroxylase show that all substrate parameters  
(i.e., chain length and double bond position with  
respect to both ends) are important; deviations in  
these parameters caused reduced activity relative to  
10 oleic acid (Howling et al., 1972). The position at  
which the hydroxyl was introduced, however, was  
determined by the position of the double bond,  
always being three carbons distal. Thus, the castor  
acyl hydroxylase enzyme can produce a family of  
15 different hydroxylated fatty acids depending on the  
availability of substrates. Thus, as a matter of  
convenience, the enzyme is referred throughout this  
specification as a kappa hydroxylase (rather than an  
oleate hydroxylase) to indicate the broad substrate  
20 specificity.

The castor kappa hydroxylase has many  
superficial similarities to the microsomal fatty  
acyl desaturases (Browse and Somerville, 1991). In  
particular, plants have a microsomal oleate  
25 desaturase active at the  $\Delta 12$  position. The substrate  
of this enzyme (Schmidt et al., 1993) and of the  
hydroxylase (Bafor et al., 1991) appears to be a  
fatty acid esterified to the *sn*-2 position of  
phosphatidylcholine. When oleate is the substrate,  
30 the modification occurs at the same position ( $\Delta 12$ )  
in the carbon chain, and requires the same  
cofactors, namely electrons from NADH via cytochrome  
*b<sub>5</sub>*, and molecular oxygen. Neither enzyme is inhibited

by carbon monoxide (Moreau and Stumpf, 1981), the characteristic inhibitor of cytochrome P450 enzymes.

There do not appear to have been any published biochemical studies of the properties of the hydroxylase enzyme(s) in *Lesquerella*.

#### Conceptual basis of the invention

The present inventors have described the use of a cDNA clone from castor for the production of ricinoleic acid in transgenic plants. As noted above, biochemical studies had suggested that the castor hydroxylase may not have strict specificity for oleic acid but would also catalyze hydroxylation of other fatty acids such as icosenoic acid (20:1<sup>cisΔ11</sup>) (Howling et al., 1972). Based on these studies, expression of kappa hydroxylase in transgenic plants of species such as *Brassica napus* and *Arabidopsis thaliana* that accumulate fatty acids such as icosenoic acid (20:1<sup>cisΔ11</sup>) and erucic acid (13-docosenoic acid; 22:1<sup>cisΔ13</sup>) may cause the accumulation of hydroxylated derivatives of these fatty acids due to the activity of the hydroxylase on these fatty acids. Direct evidence is presented in Example 1 that hydroxylated derivatives of ricinoleic, lesquerolic, densipolic and auricollic fatty acids are produced in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants.

Example 2 shows the isolation of a novel kappa hydroxylase gene from *Lesquerella fendleri*.

In view of the high degree of sequence similarity between Δ12 fatty acid desaturases and the castor hydroxylase (van de Loo et al., 1995), the validity of claims (e.g., PCT WO 94/11516) for using a limited set of desaturase or hydroxylase

genes or sequences derived therefrom to identify genes of identical function from other species must be viewed with skepticism. In this application, the present inventors teach a method by which

5 hydroxylase genes can be distinguished from desaturases. The present inventors describe a mechanistic basis for the similar reaction mechanisms of desaturases and hydroxylases. Briefly, the available evidence suggests that fatty acid

10 desaturases have a similar reaction mechanism to the bacterial enzyme methane monooxygenase which catalyses a reaction involving oxygen-atom transfer ( $\text{CH}_4 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ) (van de Loo et al., 1993). The cofactor in the hydroxylase component of methane

15 monooxygenase is termed a  $\mu$ -oxo bridged diiron cluster ( $\text{FeOFe}$ ). The two iron atoms of the  $\text{FeOFe}$  cluster are liganded by protein-derived nitrogen or oxygen atoms, and are tightly redox-coupled by the covalently-bridging oxygen atom. The  $\text{FeOFe}$  cluster

20 accepts two electrons, reducing it to the diferrous state, before oxygen binding. Upon oxygen binding, it is likely that heterolytic cleavage also occurs, leading to a high valent oxoiron reactive species that is stabilized by resonance rearrangements

25 possible within the tightly coupled  $\text{FeOFe}$  cluster. The stabilized high-valent oxoiron state of methane monooxygenase is capable of proton extraction from methane, followed by oxygen transfer, giving methanol. The  $\text{FeOFe}$  cofactor has been shown to be

30 directly relevant to plant fatty acid modifications by the demonstration that castor stearyl-ACP desaturase contains this type of cofactor (Fox et al., 1993).

On the basis of the foregoing considerations, the present inventors suggest that the castor oleate hydroxylase might be a structurally modified fatty acyl desaturase, based upon three arguments. The first argument involves the taxonomic distribution of plants containing ricinoleic acid. Ricinoleic acid has been found in 12 genera of 10 families of higher plants (reviewed in van de Loo et al., 1993). Thus, plants in which ricinoleic acid occurs are found throughout the plant kingdom, yet close relatives of these plants do not contain the unusual fatty acid. This pattern suggests that the ability to synthesize ricinoleic acid has arisen (and been lost) several times independently, and is therefore has recently diverged. In other words, the ability to synthesize ricinoleic acid has evolved rapidly, suggesting that a relatively minor genetic change in the structure of the ancestral enzyme was necessary to accomplish it.

The second argument is that many biochemical properties of castor kappa hydroxylase are similar to those of the microsomal desaturases, as discussed above (e.g., both preferentially act on fatty acids esterified to the sn-2 position of phosphatidylcholine, both use cytochrome b5 as an intermediate electron donor, both are inhibited by cyanide, both require molecular oxygen as a substrate, both are thought to be located in the endoplasmic reticulum).

The third argument stems from the discussion of oxygenase cofactors above, in which it is suggested that the plant membrane bound fatty acid desaturases may have a  $\mu$ -oxo bridged diiron cluster-type cofactor, and that such cofactors are capable



of catalyzing both fatty acid desaturations and hydroxylations, depending upon the electronic and structural properties of the protein active site.

5 Taking these three arguments together, the present inventors suggest that kappa hydroxylase of castor endosperm is homologous to the microsomal oleate  $\Delta 12$  desaturase found in all plants. A number of genes encoding microsomal  $\Delta 12$  desaturases from various species have recently been cloned (Okuley et  
10 al., 1994) and substantial information about the structure of these enzymes is now known (Shanklin et al., 1994). Hence, in the following invention, the present inventors teach how to use structural information to isolate and identify kappa  
15 hydroxylase genes. This example teaches the method by which any carbon-monoxide insensitive plant fatty acyl hydroxylase gene can be identified by one skilled in the art.

20 An unpredicted outcome of our studies on the castor hydroxylase gene in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants was the discovery that expression of the hydroxylase leads to increased accumulation of oleic acid in seed lipids. Because of the low nucleotide sequence homology between the castor hydroxylase and  
25 the  $\Delta 12$ -desaturase (about 67%), it is unlikely that this effect is due to silencing (also called sense-suppression or cosuppression) of the expression of the desaturase gene by the hydroxylase gene. Whatever the basis for the effect, this invention  
30 teaches the use of hydroxylase genes to alter the level of fatty acid unsaturation in transgenic plants. This invention also teaches the use of genetically modified hydroxylase and desaturase

genes to achieve directed modification of fatty acid unsaturation levels.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5        Figures 1A-D show the mass spectra of hydroxy fatty acids standards (Figure 1A, O-TMS-methylricinoleate; Figure 1B, O-TMS-methyl  
densipoleate; Figure 1C, O-TMS-methyl-lesqueroleate; and Figure 1D, O-TMS-methylauricoleate).

10        Figure 2 shows the fragmentation pattern of trimethylsilylated methyl esters of hydroxy fatty acids.

15        Figure 3A shows the gas chromatogram of fatty acids extracted from seeds of wild type *Arabidopsis* plants. Figure 3B shows the gas chromatogram of fatty acids extracted from seeds of transgenic  
20        *Arabidopsis* plants containing the fah12 hydroxylase gene. The numbers indicate the following fatty acids: [1] 16:0; [2] 18:0; [3] 18:1cisΔ9; [4] 18:2cisΔ9,12; [5] 20:0; [6] 20:1cisΔ11; [7] 18:3cisΔ9,12,15; [8] 20:2cisΔ11,14; [9] 22:1cisΔ13; [10] ricinoleic acid; [11] densipolic acid; [12] lesquerolic acid; and [13] auricollic acid.

25        Figures 4A-D show the mass spectra of novel fatty acids found in seeds of transgenic plants. Figure 4A shows the mass spectrum of peak 10 from Figure 3B. Figure 4B shows the mass spectrum of peak 11 from Figure 3B. Figure 4C shows the mass spectrum of peak 12 from Figure 3B. Figure 4D shows the mass spectrum of peak 13 from Figure 3B.

30        Figure 5 shows the nucleotide sequence of pLesq2 (SEQ ID NO:1).

Figure 6 shows the nucleotide sequence of pLesq3 (SEQ ID NO:2).

Figure 7 shows a Northern blot of total RNA from seeds of *L. fendleri* probed with pLesq2 or pLesq3. S, indicates RNA is from seeds; L, indicates RNA is from leaves.

5            Figures 8A-B show the nucleotide sequence of genomic clone encoding pLesq-HYD (SEQ ID NO:3), and the deduced amino acid sequence of hydroxylase enzyme encoded by the gene (SEQ ID NO:4).

10            Figures 9A-B show multiple sequence alignment of deduced amino acid sequences for kappa hydroxylases and microsomal  $\Delta 12$  desaturases. Abbreviations are: Rcfah12, fah12 hydroxylase gene from *R. communis* (van de Loo et al., 1995); Lffah12, kappa hydroxylase gene from *L. fendleri*; Atfad2, fad2 desaturase from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Okuley et al., 1994); Gmfad2-1, fad2 desaturase from *Glycine max* (GenBank accession number L43920); Gmfad2-2, fad2 desaturase from *Glycine max* (Genbank accession number L43921); Zmfad2, fad2 desaturase from *Zea mays* (PCT WO 94/11516); Rcfad2, fragment of fad2 desaturase from *R. communis* (PCT WO 94/11516); Bnfad2, fad2 desaturase from *Brassica napus* (PCT WO 94/11516); LFFAH12.AMI, SEQ ID NO:4; FAH12.AMI, SEQ ID NO:5; ATFAD2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:6; BNFAD2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:7; GMFAD2-1.AMI, SEQ ID NO:8; GMFAD2-2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:9; ZMFAD2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:10; and RCFAD2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:11.

20            Figure 10 shows a Southern blot of genomic DNA from *L. fendleri* probed with pLesq-HYD. E = EcoRI, H = HindIII, X = XbaI.

30            Figure 11 shows a map of binary Ti plasmid pSLJ44024.

            Figure 12 shows a map of plasmid pYES2.0

Figure 13 shows part of a gas chromatogram of derivatized fatty acids from yeast cells that contain plasmid pLesqYes in which expression of the hydroxylase gene was induced by addition of  
5 galactose to the growth medium. The arrow points to a peak that is not present in uninduced cells. The lower part of the figure is the mass spectrum of the peak indicated by the arrow.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 This invention relates to plant fatty acyl hydroxylases. Methods to use conserved amino acid or nucleotide sequences to obtain plant fatty acyl hydroxylases are described. Also described is the use of cDNA clones encoding a plant hydroxylase to  
15 produce a family of hydroxylated fatty acids in transgenic plants.

In a first embodiment, this invention is directed to recombinant DNA constructs which can provide for the transcription, or transcription and  
20 translation (expression) of the plant kappa hydroxylase sequence. In particular, constructs which are capable of transcription, or transcription and translation in plant host cells are preferred. Such constructs may contain a variety of regulatory  
25 regions including transcriptional initiation regions obtained from genes preferentially expressed in plant seed tissue. In a second aspect, this invention relates to the presence of such constructs in host cells, especially plant host cells which  
30 have an expressed plant kappa hydroxylase therein.

In yet another aspect, this invention relates to a method for producing a plant kappa hydroxylase in a host cell or progeny thereof via the expression

of a construct in the cell. Cells containing a plant kappa hydroxylase as a result of the production of the plant kappa hydroxylase encoding sequence are also contemplated herein.

5           In another embodiment, this invention relates to methods of using a DNA sequence encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase for the modification of the proportion of hydroxylated fatty acids produced within a cell, especially plant cells. Plant cells  
10       having such a modified hydroxylated fatty acid composition are also contemplated herein.

          In a further aspect of this invention, plant kappa hydroxylase proteins and sequences which are related thereto, including amino acid and nucleic  
15       acid sequences, are contemplated. Plant kappa hydroxylase exemplified herein includes a *Lesquerella fendleri* fatty acid hydroxylase. This exemplified fatty acid hydroxylase may be used to obtain other plant fatty acid hydroxylases of this  
20       invention.

          In a further aspect of this invention, a nucleic acid sequence which directs the seed specific expression of an associated polypeptide coding sequence is described. The use of this  
25       nucleic acid sequence or fragments derived therefrom, to obtain seed-specific expression in higher plants of any coding sequence is contemplated herein.

          In a further aspect of this invention, the  
30       use of genes encoding fatty acyl hydroxylases of this invention are used to alter the amount of fatty acid unsaturation of seed lipids. The present invention further discloses the use of genetically modified hydroxylase and desaturase genes to achieve

directed modification of fatty acid unsaturation levels.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

5 A genetically transformed plant of the present invention which accumulates hydroxylated fatty acids can be obtained by expressing the double-stranded DNA molecules described in this application.

10 A plant fatty acid hydroxylase of this invention includes any sequence of amino acids, such as a protein, polypeptide or peptide fragment, or nucleic acid sequences encoding such polypeptides, obtainable from a plant source which demonstrates the ability to catalyze the production of  
15 ricinoleic, lesquerolic, hydroxyerucic (16-hydroxydocos-*cis*-13-enoic acid) or hydroxypalmitoleic (12-hydroxyhexadec-*cis*-9-enoic) from CoA, ACP or lipid-linked monoenoic fatty acid substrates under plant enzyme reactive conditions.  
20 By "enzyme reactive conditions" is meant that any necessary conditions are available in an environment (i.e., such factors as temperature, pH, lack of inhibiting substances) which will permit the enzyme to function.

25 Preferential activity of a plant fatty acid hydroxylase toward a particular fatty acyl substrate is determined upon comparison of hydroxylated fatty acid product amounts obtained per different fatty acyl substrates. For example, by "oleate preferring"  
30 is meant that the hydroxylase activity of the enzyme preparation demonstrates a preference for oleate-containing substrates over other substrates. Although the precise substrate of the castor fatty

acid hydroxylase is not known, it is thought to be a monounsaturated fatty acid moiety which is esterified to a phospholipid such as

phosphatidylcholine. However, it is also possible  
5 that monounsaturated fatty acids esterified to phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidic acid or a neutral lipid such as diacylglycerol or a Coenzyme-A thioester may also be substrates.

As noted above, significant activity has been  
10 observed in radioactive labelling studies using fatty acyl substrates other than oleate (Howling et al., 1972) indicating that the substrate specificity is for a family of related fatty acyl compounds. Because the castor hydroxylase introduces hydroxy  
15 groups three carbons from a double bond, proximal to the methyl carbon of the fatty acid, the enzyme is termed a kappa hydroxylase for convenience. Of particular interest, the present invention discloses that the castor kappa hydroxylase may be used for  
20 production of 12-hydroxy-9-octadecenoic acid (ricinoleate), 12-hydroxy-9-hexadecenoic acid, 14-hydroxy-11-eicosenoic acid, 16-hydroxy-13-docosenoic acid, 9-hydroxy-6-octadecenoic acid by expression in plants species which produce the non-hydroxylated  
25 precursors. The present invention also discloses production of additionally modified fatty acids such as 12-hydroxy-9,15-octadecadienoic acid that result from desaturation of hydroxylated fatty acids (e.g., 12-hydroxy-9-octadecenoic acid in this example).

30 The present invention also discloses that future advances in the genetic engineering of plants will lead to production of substrate fatty acids, such as icosenoic acid esters, and palmitoleic acid esters in plants that do not normally accumulate

such fatty acids. The invention described herein may be used in conjunction with such future improvements to produce hydroxylated fatty acids of this invention in any plant species that is amenable to directed genetic modification. Thus, the applicability of this invention is not limited in our conception only to those species that currently accumulate suitable substrates.

As noted above, a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention will display activity towards various fatty acyl substrates. During biosynthesis of lipids in a plant cell, fatty acids are typically covalently bound to acyl carrier protein (ACP), coenzyme A (CoA) or various cellular lipids. Plant kappa hydroxylases which display preferential activity toward lipid-linked acyl substrate are especially preferred because they are likely to be closely associated with normal pathway of storage lipid synthesis in immature embryos. However, activity toward acyl-CoA substrates or other synthetic substrates, for example, is also contemplated herein.

Other plant kappa hydroxylases are obtainable from the specific exemplified sequences provided herein. Furthermore, it will be apparent that one can obtain natural and synthetic plant kappa hydroxylases including modified amino acid sequences and starting materials for synthetic-protein modeling from the exemplified plant kappa hydroxylase and from plant kappa hydroxylases which are obtained through the use of such exemplified sequences. Modified amino acid sequences include sequences which have been mutated, truncated, elongated or the like, whether such sequences were



partially or wholly synthesized. Sequences which are actually purified from plant preparations or are identical or encode identical proteins thereto, regardless of the method used to obtain the protein or sequence, are equally considered naturally  
5 derived.

Thus, one skilled in the art will readily recognize that antibody preparations, nucleic acid probes (DNA and RNA) or the like may be prepared and  
10 used to screen and recover "homologous" or "related" kappa hydroxylases from a variety of plant sources. Typically, nucleic acid probes are labeled to allow detection, preferably with radioactivity although enzymes or other methods may also be used. For  
15 immunological screening methods, antibody preparations either monoclonal or polyclonal are utilized. Polyclonal antibodies, although less specific, typically are more useful in gene isolation. For detection, the antibody is labeled  
20 using radioactivity or any one of a variety of second antibody/enzyme conjugate systems that are commercially available.

Homologous sequences are found when there is an identity of sequence and may be determined upon  
25 comparison of sequence information, nucleic acid or amino acid, or through hybridization reactions between a known kappa hydroxylase and a candidate source. Conservative changes, such as Glu/Asp, Val/Ile, Ser/Thr, Arg/Lys and Gln/Asn may also be  
30 considered in determining sequence homology. Typically, a lengthy nucleic acid sequence may show as little as 50-60% sequence identity, and more preferably at least about 70% sequence identity, between the target sequence and the given plant

kappa hydroxylase of interest excluding any deletions which may be present, and still be considered related. Amino acid sequences are considered homologous by as little as 25% sequence identity between the two complete mature proteins. (see generally, Doolittle, R.F., OF URFS and ORFS, University Science Books, CA, 1986.)

A genomic or other appropriate library prepared from the candidate plant source of interest may be probed with conserved sequences from the plant kappa hydroxylase to identify homologously related sequences. Use of an entire cDNA or other sequence may be employed if shorter probe sequences are not identified. Positive clones are then analyzed by restriction enzyme digestion and/or sequencing. When a genomic library is used, one or more sequences may be identified providing both the coding region, as well as the transcriptional regulatory elements of the kappa hydroxylase gene from such plant source. Probes can also be considerably shorter than the entire sequence. Oligonucleotides may be used, for example, but should be at least about 10, preferably at least about 15, more preferably at least 20 nucleotides in length. When shorter length regions are used for comparison, a higher degree of sequence identity is required than for longer sequences. Shorter probes are often particularly useful for polymerase chain reactions (PCR), especially when highly conserved sequences can be identified (see Gould et al., 1989 for examples of the use of PCR to isolate homologous genes from taxonomically diverse species).

When longer nucleic acid fragments are employed (>100 bp) as probes, especially when using

complete or large cDNA sequences, one would screen with low stringencies (for example, 40-50°C below the melting temperature of the probe) in order to obtain signal from the target sample with 20-50% deviation, i.e., homologous sequences (Beltz et al., 1983).

In a preferred embodiment, a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention will have at least 60% overall amino acid sequence similarity with the exemplified plant kappa hydroxylase. In particular, kappa hydroxylases which are obtainable from an amino acid or nucleic acid sequence of a castor or *Lesquerella* kappa hydroxylase are especially preferred. The plant kappa hydroxylases may have preferential activity toward longer or shorter chain fatty acyl substrates. Plant fatty acyl hydroxylases having oleate-12-hydroxylase activity and eicosenoate-14-hydroxylase activity are both considered homologously related proteins because of in vitro evidence (Howling et al., 1972), and evidence disclosed herein, that the castor kappa hydroxylase will act on both substrates. Hydroxylated fatty acids may be subject to further enzymatic modification by other enzymes which are normally present or are introduced by genetic engineering methods. For example, 14-hydroxy-11,17-eicosadienoic acid, which is present in some *Lesquerella* species (Smith, 1985), is thought to be produced by desaturation of 14-hydroxy-11-eicosenoic acid.

Again, not only can gene clones and materials derived therefrom be used to identify homologous plant fatty acyl hydroxylases, but the resulting sequences obtained therefrom may also provide a

further method to obtain plant fatty acyl hydroxylases from other plant sources. In particular, PCR may be a useful technique to obtain related plant fatty acyl hydroxylases from sequence data provided herein. One skilled in the art will be able to design oligonucleotide probes based upon sequence comparisons or regions of typically highly conserved sequence. Of special interest are polymerase chain reaction primers based on the conserved regions of amino acid sequence between the castor kappa hydroxylase and the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase (SEQ ID NO:4). Details relating to the design and methods for a PCR reaction using these probes are described more fully in the examples.

It should also be noted that the fatty acyl hydroxylases of a variety of sources can be used to investigate fatty acid hydroxylation events in a wide variety of plant and in vivo applications. Because all plants synthesize fatty acids via a common metabolic pathway, the study and/or application of one plant fatty acid hydroxylase to a heterologous plant host may be readily achieved in a variety of species.

Once the nucleic acid sequence is obtained, the transcription, or transcription and translation (expression), of the plant fatty acyl hydroxylases in a host cell is desired to produce a ready source of the enzyme and/or modify the composition of fatty acids found therein in the form of free fatty acids, esters (particularly esterified to glycerolipids or as components of wax esters), estolides, or ethers. Other useful applications may be found when the host cell is a plant host cell, in vitro and in vivo. For example, by increasing the amount of an kappa

hydroxylase available to the plant, an increased percentage of ricinoleate or lesqueroleate (14-hydroxy-11-eicosenoic acid) may be provided.

#### Kappa Hydroxylase

5           By this invention, a mechanism for the biosynthesis of ricinoleic acid in plants is demonstrated. Namely, that a specific plant kappa hydroxylase having preferential activity toward fatty acyl substrates is involved in the  
10 accumulation of hydroxylated fatty acids in at least some plant species. The use of the terms ricinoleate or ricinoleic acid (or lesqueroleate or lesquerolic acid, densipoleate etc.) is intended to include the free acids, the ACP and CoA esters, the salts of  
15 these acids, the glycerolipid esters (particularly the triacylglycerol esters), the wax esters, the estolides and the ether derivatives of these acids.

          The determination that plant fatty acyl hydroxylases are active in the *in vivo* production of  
20 hydroxylated fatty acids suggests several possibilities for plant enzyme sources. In fact, hydroxylated fatty acids are found in some natural plant species in abundance. For example, three hydroxy fatty acids related to ricinoleate occur in  
25 major amounts in seed oils from various *Lesquerella* species. Of particular interest, lesquerolic acid is a 20 carbon homolog of ricinoleate with two additional carbons at the carboxyl end of the chain (Smith, 1985). Other natural plant sources of  
30 hydroxylated fatty acids include but are not limited to seeds of the *Linum* genus, seeds of *Wrightia* species, *Lycopodium* species, *Strophanthus* species,

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30 hydroxylated fatty acids include but are not limited to seeds of the *Linum* genus, seeds of *Wrightia* species, *Lycopodium* species, *Strophanthus* species,

*Convolvulaceae* species, *Calendula* species and many others (van de Loo et al., 1993).

Plants having significant presence of ricinoleate or lesqueroleate or desaturated other or modified derivatives of these fatty acids are preferred candidates to obtain naturally-derived kappa hydroxylases. For example, *Lesquerella densipila* contains a diunsaturated 18 carbon fatty acid with a hydroxyl group (van de Loo et al., 1993) that is thought to be produced by an enzyme that is closely related to the castor kappa hydroxylase, according to the theory on which this invention is based. In addition, a comparison between kappa hydroxylases and between plant fatty acyl hydroxylases which introduce hydroxyl groups at positions other than the 12-carbon of oleate or the 14-carbon of lesqueroleate or on substrates other than oleic acid and icosanoic acid may yield insights for gene identification, protein modeling or other modifications as discussed above.

Especially of interest are fatty acyl hydroxylases which demonstrate activity toward fatty acyl substrates other than oleate, or which introduce the hydroxyl group at a location other than the C12 carbon. As described above, other plant sources may also provide sources for these enzymes through the use of protein purification, nucleic acid probes, antibody preparations, protein modeling, or sequence comparisons, for example, and of special interest are the respective amino acid and nucleic acid sequences corresponding to such plant fatty acyl hydroxylases. Also, as previously described, once a nucleic acid sequence is obtained for the given plant hydroxylase, further plant

sequences may be compared and/or probed to obtain homologously related DNA sequences thereto and so on.

#### Genetic Engineering Applications

5           As is well known in the art, once a cDNA clone encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase is obtained, it may be used to obtain its corresponding genomic nucleic acid sequences thereto.

10           The nucleic acid sequences which encode plant kappa hydroxylases may be used in various constructs, for example, as probes to obtain further sequences from the same or other species. Alternatively, these sequences may be used in conjunction with appropriate regulatory sequences to  
15           increase levels of the respective hydroxylase of interest in a host cell for the production of hydroxylated fatty acids or study of the enzyme *in vitro* or *in vivo* or to decrease or increase levels of the respective hydroxylase of interest for some  
20           applications when the host cell is a plant entity, including plant cells, plant parts (including but not limited to seeds, cuttings or tissues) and plants.

          A nucleic acid sequence encoding a plant  
25           kappa hydroxylase of this invention may include genomic, cDNA or mRNA sequence. By "encoding" is meant that the sequence corresponds to a particular amino acid sequence either in a sense or anti-sense orientation. By "recombinant" is meant that the  
30           sequence contains a genetically engineered modification through manipulation via mutagenesis, restriction enzymes, or the like. A cDNA sequence may or may not encode pre-processing sequences, such



as transit or signal peptide sequences. Transit or signal peptide sequences facilitate the delivery of the protein to a given organelle and are frequently cleaved from the polypeptide upon entry into the organelle, releasing the "mature" sequence. The use of the precursor DNA sequence is preferred in plant cell expression cassettes.

Furthermore, as discussed above the complete genomic sequence of the plant kappa hydroxylase may be obtained by the screening of a genomic library with a probe, such as a cDNA probe, and isolating those sequences which regulate expression in seed tissue.

Once the desired plant kappa hydroxylase nucleic acid sequence is obtained, it may be manipulated in a variety of ways. Where the sequence involves non-coding flanking regions, the flanking regions may be subjected to resection, mutagenesis, etc. Thus, transitions, transversions, deletions, and insertions may be performed on the naturally occurring sequence. In addition, all or part of the sequence may be synthesized. In the structural gene, one or more codons may be modified to provide for a modified amino acid sequence, or one or more codon mutations may be introduced to provide for a convenient restriction site or other purpose involved with construction or expression. The structural gene may be further modified by employing synthetic adapters, linkers to introduce one or more convenient restriction sites, or the like.

The nucleic acid or amino acid sequences encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention may be combined with other non-native, or "heterologous", sequences in a variety of ways. By

"heterologous" sequences is meant any sequence which is not naturally found joined to the plant kappa hydroxylase, including, for example, combination of nucleic acid sequences from the same plant which are not naturally found joined together.

The DNA sequence encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention may be employed in conjunction with all or part of the gene sequences normally associated with the kappa hydroxylase. In its component parts, a DNA sequence encoding kappa hydroxylase is combined in a DNA construct having, in the 5' to 3' direction of transcription, a transcription initiation control region capable of promoting transcription and/or translation in a host cell, the DNA sequence encoding plant kappa hydroxylase and a transcription and/or translation termination region.

Potential host cells include both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. A host cell may be unicellular or found in a multicellular differentiated or undifferentiated organism depending upon the intended use. Cells of this invention may be distinguished by having a plant kappa hydroxylase foreign to the wild-type cell present therein, for example, by having a recombinant nucleic acid construct encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase therein.

Depending upon the host, the regulatory regions will vary, including regions from viral, plasmid or chromosomal genes, or the like. For expression in prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganisms, particularly unicellular hosts, a wide variety of constitutive or regulatable promoters may be employed. Expression in a

microorganism can provide a ready source of the plant enzyme. Among transcriptional initiation regions which have been described are regions from bacterial and yeast hosts, such as *E. coli*, *B. subtilis*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, including genes such as beta-galactosidase, T7 polymerase, *trpE* or the like.

For the most part, the constructs will involve regulatory regions functional in plants which provide for modified production of plant kappa hydroxylase with resulting modification of the fatty acid composition. The open reading frame, coding for the plant kappa hydroxylase or functional fragment thereof will be joined at its 5' end to a transcription initiation regulatory region. Numerous transcription initiation regions are available which provide for a wide variety of constitutive or regulatable, e.g., inducible, transcription of the structural gene functions.

Among transcriptional initiation regions used for plants are such regions associated with the structural genes such as for nopaline and mannopine synthases, or with napin, soybean  $\beta$ -conglycinin, oleosin, 12S storage protein, the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoters or the like. The transcription/translation initiation regions corresponding to such structural genes are found immediately 5' upstream to the respective start codons.

In embodiments wherein the expression of the kappa hydroxylase protein is desired in a plant host, the use of all or part of the complete plant kappa hydroxylase gene is desired. If a different promoter is desired, such as a promoter native to the plant host of interest or a modified promoter,

i.e., having transcription initiation regions derived from one gene source and translation initiation regions derived from a different gene source or enhanced promoters, such as double 35S  
5 CaMV promoters, the sequences may be joined together using standard techniques.

For such applications when 5' upstream non-coding regions are obtained from other genes regulated during seed maturation, those  
10 preferentially expressed in plant embryo tissue, such as transcription initiation control regions from the *B. napus* napin gene, or the *Arabidopsis* 12S storage protein, or soybean  $\beta$ -conglycinin (Bray et al., 1987) are desired. Transcription initiation  
15 regions which are preferentially expressed in seed tissue, i.e., which are undetectable in other plant parts, are considered desirable for fatty acid modifications in order to minimize any disruptive or adverse effects of the gene product.

20 Regulatory transcript termination regions may be provided in DNA constructs of this invention as well. Transcript termination regions may be provided by the DNA sequence encoding the plant kappa hydroxylase or a convenient transcription  
25 termination region derived from a different gene source, for example, the transcript termination region which is naturally associated with the transcript initiation region. Where the transcript termination region is from a different gene source,  
30 it will contain at least about 0.5 kb, preferably about 1-3 kb of sequence 3' to the structural gene from which the termination region is derived.

Plant expression or transcription constructs having a plant kappa hydroxylase as the DNA sequence

of interest for increased or decreased expression thereof may be employed with a wide variety of plant life, particularly, plant life involved in the production of vegetable oils for edible and industrial uses. Most especially preferred are temperate oilseed crops. Plants of interest include, but are not limited to rapeseed (canola and high erucic acid varieties), *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, *Brassica nigra*, meadowfoam, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, *Cuphea*, soybean, peanut, coconut and oil palms and corn. An important criterion in the selection of suitable plants for the introduction on the kappa hydroxylase is the presence in the host plant of a suitable substrate for the hydroxylase. Thus, for example, production of ricinoleic acid will be best accomplished in plants that normally have high levels of oleic acid in seed lipids. Similarly, production of lesquerolic acid will best be accomplished in plants that have high levels of icosenoic acid in seed lipids.

Depending on the method for introducing the recombinant constructs into the host cell, other DNA sequences may be required. Importantly, this invention is applicable to dicotyledons and monocotyledons species alike and will be readily applicable to new and/or improved transformation and regulation techniques. The method of transformation is not critical to the current invention; various methods of plant transformation are currently available. As newer methods are available to transform crops, they may be directly applied hereunder. For example, many plant species naturally susceptible to *Agrobacterium* infection may be successfully transformed via tripartite or binary

vector methods of *Agrobacterium* mediated transformation. In addition, techniques of microinjection, DNA particle bombardment, electroporation have been developed which allow for the transformation of various monocot and dicot plant species.

In developing the DNA construct, the various components of the construct or fragments thereof will normally be inserted into a convenient cloning vector which is capable of replication in a bacterial host, e.g., *E. coli*. Numerous vectors exist that have been described in the literature. After each cloning, the plasmid may be isolated and subjected to further manipulation, such as restriction, insertion of new fragments, ligation, deletion, insertion, resection, etc., so as to tailor the components of the desired sequence. Once the construct has been completed, it may then be transferred to an appropriate vector for further manipulation in accordance with the manner of transformation of the host cell.

Normally, included with the DNA construct will be a structural gene having the necessary regulatory regions for expression in a host and providing for selection of transformant cells. The gene may provide for resistance to a cytotoxic agent, e.g., antibiotic, heavy metal, toxin, etc., complementation providing prototrophy to an auxotrophic host, viral immunity or the like. Depending upon the number of different host species the expression construct or components thereof are introduced, one or more markers may be employed, where different conditions for selection are used for the different hosts.

It is noted that the degeneracy of the DNA code provides that some codon substitutions are permissible of DNA sequences without any corresponding modification of the amino acid sequence.

As mentioned above, the manner in which the DNA construct is introduced into the plant host is not critical to this invention. Any method which provides for efficient transformation may be employed. Various methods for plant cell transformation include the use of Ti- or Ri-plasmids, microinjection, electroporation, infiltration, imbibition, DNA particle bombardment, liposome fusion, DNA bombardment or the like. In many instances, it will be desirable to have the construct bordered on one or both sides of the T-DNA, particularly having the left and right borders, more particularly the right border. This is particularly useful when the construct uses *A. tumefaciens* or *A. rhizogenes* as a mode for transformation, although the T-DNA borders may find use with other modes of transformation.

Where *Agrobacterium* is used for plant cell transformation, a vector may be used which may be introduced into the *Agrobacterium* host for homologous recombination with T-DNA or the Ti- or Ri-plasmid present in the *Agrobacterium* host. The Ti- or Ri-plasmid containing the T-DNA for recombination may be armed (capable of causing gall formation) or disarmed (incapable of causing gall), the latter being permissible, so long as the *vir* genes are present in the transformed *Agrobacterium* host. The armed plasmid can give a mixture of normal plant cells and gall.

In some instances where *Agrobacterium* is used as the vehicle for transforming plant cells, the expression construct bordered by the T-DNA border(s) will be inserted into a broad host spectrum vector, there being broad host spectrum vectors described in the literature. Commonly used is pRK2 or derivatives thereof. See, for example, Ditta et al. (1980), which is incorporated herein by reference. Included with the expression construct and the T-DNA will be one or more markers, which allow for selection of transformed *Agrobacterium* and transformed plant cells. A number of markers have been developed for use with plant cells, such as resistance to kanamycin, the aminoglycoside G418, hygromycin, or the like. The particular marker employed is not essential to this invention, one or another marker being preferred depending on the particular host and the manner of construction.

For transformation of plant cells using *Agrobacterium*, explants may be combined and incubated with the transformed *Agrobacterium* for sufficient time for transformation, the bacteria killed, and the plant cells cultured in an appropriate selective medium. Once callus forms, shoot formation can be encouraged by employing the appropriate plant hormones in accordance with known methods and the shoots transferred to rooting medium for regeneration of plants. The plants may then be grown to seed and the seed used to establish repetitive generations and for isolation of vegetable oils.



Using Hydroxylase Genes to Alter the Activity of  
Fatty Acid Desaturases

A widely acknowledged goal of current efforts to improve the nutritional quality of edible plant oils, or to facilitate industrial applications of plant oils, is to alter the level of desaturation of plant storage lipids (Topfer et al., 1995). In particular, in many crop species it is considered desirable to reduce the level of polyunsaturation of storage lipids and to increase the level of oleic acid. The precise amount of the various fatty acids in a particular plant oil varies with the intended application. Thus, it is desirable to have a robust method that will permit genetic manipulation of the level of unsaturation to any desired level.

Substantial progress has recently been made in the isolation of genes encoding plant fatty acid desaturases (reviewed in Topfer et al., 1995). These genes have been introduced into various plant species and used to alter the level of fatty acid unsaturation in one of three ways. First, the genes can be placed under transcriptional control of a strong promoter so that the amount of the corresponding enzyme is increased. In some cases this leads to an increase in the amount of the fatty acid that is the product of the reaction catalyzed by the enzyme. For example, Arondel et al. (1992) increased the amount of linolenic acid (18:3) in tissues of transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants by placing the endoplasmic reticulum-localized *fad3* gene under transcriptional control of the strong constitutive cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter.

A second method of using cloned genes to alter the level of fatty acid unsaturation is to

cause transcription of all or part of a gene in transgenic tissues so that the transcripts have an antisense orientation relative to the normal mode of transcription. This has been used by a number of laboratories to reduce the level of expression of one or more desaturase genes that have significant nucleotide sequence homology to the gene used in the construction of the antisense gene (reviewed in Topfer et al.). For instance, antisense repression of the oleate  $\Delta 12$ -desaturase in transgenic rapeseed resulted in a strong increase in oleic acid content (cf., Topfer et al., 1995).

A third method for using cloned genes to alter fatty acid desaturation is to exploit the phenomenon of cosuppression or "gene-silencing" (Matzke et al., 1995). Although the mechanisms responsible for gene silencing are not known in any detail, it has frequently been observed that in transgenic plants, expression of an introduced gene leads to inactivation of homologous endogenous genes.

For example, high-level sense expression of the *Arabidopsis* fad8 gene, which encodes a chloroplast-localized  $\Delta 15$ -desaturase, in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants caused suppression of the endogenous copy of the fad8 gene and the homologous fad7 gene (which encodes an isozyme of the fad8 gene) (Gibson et al., 1994). The fad7 and fad8 genes are only 76% identical at the nucleotide level. At the time of publication, this example represented the most divergent pair of plant genes for which cosuppression had been observed.

In view of previous evidence concerning the relatively high level of nucleotide sequence

homology required to obtain cosuppression, it is not obvious to one skilled in the art that sense expression in transgenic plants of the castor fatty acyl hydroxylase of this invention would  
5 significantly alter the amount of unsaturation of storage lipids.

However, the present inventors establish that fatty acyl hydroxylase genes can be used for this purpose as taught in Example 4 of this  
10 specification. Of particular importance, this invention teaches the use of fatty acyl hydroxylase genes to increase the proportion of oleic acid in transgenic plant tissues. The mechanism by which expression of the gene exerts this effect is not  
15 known but may be due to one of several possibilities which are elaborated upon in Example 4.

The invention now being generally described, it will be more readily understood by reference to the following examples which are included for  
20 purposes of illustration only and are not intended to limit the present invention.

#### EXAMPLES

In the experimental disclosure which follows, all temperatures are given in degrees centigrade  
25 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), weights are given in grams (g), milligram (mg) or micrograms ( $\mu\text{g}$ ), concentrations are given as molar (M), millimolar (mM) or micromolar ( $\mu\text{M}$ ) and all volumes are given in liters (l), microliters ( $\mu\text{l}$ ) or milliliters (ml), unless otherwise  
30 indicated.

EXAMPLE 1 - PRODUCTION OF NOVEL HYDROXYLATED FATTY  
ACIDS IN ARABIDOPSIS THALIANA

Overview

The kappa hydroxylase encoded by the fah12  
5 gene from castor was used to produce ricinoleic  
acid, lesquerolic acid, densipolic acid and  
auricolic acid in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants.

Production of transgenic plants

A variety of methods have been developed to  
10 insert a DNA sequence of interest into the genome of  
a plant host to obtain the transcription and  
translation of the sequence to effect phenotypic  
changes. The following methods represent only one of  
many equivalent means of producing transgenic plants  
15 and causing expression of the hydroxylase gene.

*Arabidopsis* plants were transformed, by  
*Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation, with the  
kappa hydroxylase encoded by the castor fah12 gene  
on binary Ti plasmid pB6. This plasmid has also been  
20 used to transform *Nicotiana tabacum* for the  
production of ricinoleic acid.

Inoculums of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain  
GV3101 containing binary Ti plasmid pB6 were plated  
on L-broth plates containing 50 µg/ml kanamycin and  
25 incubated for 2 days at 30°C. Single colonies were  
used to inoculate large liquid cultures (L-broth  
medium with 50 mg/l rifampicin, 110 mg/l gentamycin  
and 200 mg/l kanamycin) to be used for the  
transformation of *Arabidopsis* plants.

30 *Arabidopsis* plants were transformed by the in  
planta transformation procedure essentially as  
described by Bechtold et al. (1993). Cells of *A.*  
*tumefaciens* GV3101(pB6) were harvested from liquid

cultures by centrifugation, then resuspended in infiltration medium at  $OD_{600} = 0.8$ . Infiltration medium was Murashige and Skoog macro and micronutrient medium (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO) containing 10 mg/l 6-benzylaminopurine and 5% glucose. Batches of 12-15 plants were grown for 3 to 4 weeks in natural light at a mean daily temperature of approximately 25°C in 3.5 inch pots containing soil. The intact plants were immersed in the bacterial suspension then transferred to a vacuum chamber and placed under 600 mm of vacuum produced by a laboratory vacuum pump until tissues appeared uniformly water-soaked (approximately 10 min). The plants were grown at 25°C under continuous light (100  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  irradiation in the 400 to 700 nm range) for four weeks. The seeds obtained from all the plants in a pot were harvested as one batch. The seeds were sterilized by sequential treatment for 2 min with ethanol followed by 10 min in a mixture of household bleach (Clorox), water and Tween-80 (50%, 50%, 0.05%) then rinsed thoroughly with sterile water. The seeds were plated at high density (2000 to 4000 per plate) onto agar-solidified medium in 100 mm petri plates containing 1/2 X Murashige and Skoog salts medium enriched with B5 vitamins (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO) and containing kanamycin at 50 mg/l. After incubation for 48 h at 4°C to stimulate germination, seedlings were grown for a period of seven days until transformants were clearly identifiable as healthy green seedlings against a background of chlorotic kanamycin-sensitive seedlings. The transformants were transferred to soil for two weeks before leaf tissue

could be used for DNA and lipid analysis. More than 20 transformants were obtained.

DNA was extracted from young leaves from transformants to verify the presence of an intact  
5 fah12 gene. The presence of the transgene in a number of the putative transgenic lines was verified by using the polymerase chain reaction to amplify the insert from pB6. The primers used were HF2 =  
GCTCTTTTGTGCGCTCATTC (SEQ ID NO:12) and HR1 =  
10 CGGTACCAGAAAACGCCTTG (SEQ ID NO:13), which were designed to allow the amplification of a 700 bp fragment. Approximately 100 ng of genomic DNA was added to a solution containing 25 pmol of each primer, 1.5 U Taq polymerase (Boehringer Mannheim),  
15 200 uM of dNTPs, 50 mM KCl, 10 mM Tris.Cl (pH 9), 0.1% (v/v) Triton X-100, 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 3% (v/v) formamide, to a final volume of 50 µl. Amplifications conditions were: 4 min denaturation step at 94°C, followed by 30 cycles of 92°C for 1  
20 min, 55°C for 1 min, 72°C for 2 min. A final extension step closed the program at 72°C for 5 min. Transformants could be positively identified after visualization of a characteristic 1 kb amplified fragment on an ethidium bromide stained agarose gel.  
25 All transgenic lines tested gave a PCR product of a size consistent with the expected genotype, confirming that the lines were, indeed, transgenic. All further experiments were done with three representative transgenic lines of the wild type  
30 designated as 1-3, 4D, 7-4 and one transgenic line of the fad2 mutant line JB12. The transgenic JB12 line was included in order to test whether the increased accumulation of oleic acid in this mutant

would have an effect on the amount of ricinoleic acid that accumulated in the transgenic plants.

#### Analysis of transgenic plants

Leaves and seeds from fah12 transgenic

5 *Arabidopsis* plants were analyzed for the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids using gas chromatography. Lipids were extracted from 100-200 mg leaf tissue or 50 seeds. Fatty acid methyl esters (FAMES) were prepared by placing tissue in 1.5 ml of 1.0 M

10 methanolic HCl (Supelco Co.) in a 13 x 100 mm glass screw-cap tube capped with a teflon-lined cap and heated to 80°C for 2 hours. Upon cooling, 1 ml petroleum ether was added and the FAMES removed by aspirating off the ether phase which was then dried

15 under a nitrogen stream in a glass tube. One hundred  $\mu$ l of N,O-bis(Trimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide (BSTFA; Pierce Chemical Co) and 200  $\mu$ l acetonitrile was added to derivatize the hydroxyl groups. The reaction was carried out at 70°C for 15 min. The

20 products were dried under nitrogen, redissolved in 100  $\mu$ l chloroform and transferred to a gas chromatograph vial. Two  $\mu$ l of each sample were analyzed on a SP2340 fused silica capillary column (30 m, 0.75 mm ID, 0.20 mm film, Supelco), using a

25 Hewlett-Packard 5890 II series Gas Chromatograph. The samples were not split, the temperature program was 195°C for 18 min, increased to 230°C at 25°C/min, held at 230°C for 5 min then down to 195°C at 25°C/min., and flame ionization detectors were

30 used.

The chromatographic elution time of methyl esters and O-TMS derivatives of ricinoleic acid, lesquerolic acid and erucolic acid was established

by GC-MS of lipid samples from seeds of *L. fendleri* and comparison to published chromatograms of fatty acids from this species (Carlson et al., 1990). A O-TMS-methyl-ricinoleate standard was prepared from  
5 ricinoleic acid obtained from Sigma Chemical Co (St, Louis, MO). O-TMS-methyl-lesqueroleate and O-TMS-methyl-auricoleate standards were prepared from triacylglycerols purified from seeds of *L. fendleri*. The mass spectrum of O-TMS-methyl-ricinoleate, O-  
10 TMS-methyl-densipoleate, O-TMS-methyl-lesqueroleate, and O-TMS-methyl-auricoleate are shown in Figures 1A-D, respectively. The structures of the characteristic ions produced during mass spectrometry of these derivatives are shown in  
15 Figure 2.

Lipid extracted from transgenic tissues were analyzed by gas chromatography and mass spectrometry for the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids. As a matter of reference, the average fatty acid  
20 composition of leaves in *Arabidopsis* wild type and *fad2* mutant lines was reported by Miquel and Browse (1992). Gas chromatograms of methylated and silylated fatty acids from seeds of wild type and a *fah12* transgenic wild type plant are shown in  
25 Figures 3A and 3B, respectively. The profiles are very similar except for the presence of three small but distinct peaks at 14.3, 15.9 and 18.9 minutes. A very small peak at 20.15 min was also evident. The elution time of the peaks at 14.3 and 18.9 min  
30 corresponded precisely to that of comparably prepared ricinoleic and lesquerolic standards, respectively. No significant differences were observed in lipid extracts from leaves or roots of



the wild type and the fah12 transgenic wild type lines (Table 1).

Thus, in spite of the fact that the fah12 gene is expressed throughout the plant, effects on  
5 fatty acid composition was observed only in seed tissue. The present inventors have made a similar observation for transgenic fah12 tobacco.

Table 1. Fatty acid composition of lipids from transgenic and wild type *Arabidopsis*. The values are  
10 the means obtained from analysis of samples from three independent transgenic lines, or three independent samples of wild type and fad2 lines.

TABLE I

Fatty acid	Seed				Leaf		Root	
	WT	<u>FAH12</u> WT	<u>FAH12</u> fad2	JB12	WT	<u>FAH12</u> WT	WT	<u>FAH12</u> WT
16:0	8.5	8.2	6.4	6.1	16.5	17.5	23.9	24.9
16:3	0	0	0	0	10.1	9.8	0	0
18:0	3.2	3.5	2.9	3.5	1.3	1.2	2.0	1.9
18:1	15.4	26.3	43.4	47.8	2.4	3.4	5.4	3.2
18:2	27.0	21.4	10.2	7.2	15.1	14.0	32.2	29.4
18:3	22.0	16.6	-	9.7	36.7	36.0	26.7	30.6
20:1	14.0	14.3	-	13.1	0	0	0	0

TABLE 1 (continued)

Fatty acid	Seed				Leaf		Root	
	WT	<u>FAH12</u> WT	<u>FAH12</u> fad2	JB12	WT	<u>FAH12</u> WT	WT	<u>FAH12</u> WT
18:1-OH	0	0.4	0.3	0	0	0	0	0
18:2-OH	0	0.4	0.3	0	0	0	0	0
20:1-OH	0	0.2	0.1	0	0	0	0	0
20:2-OH	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0

In order to confirm that the observed new peaks in the transgenic lines corresponded to derivatives of ricinoleic, lesquerolic, densipolic and auricolic acids, mass spectrometry was used. The fatty acid derivatives were resolved by gas chromatography as described above except that a Hewlett-Packard 5971 series mass selective detector was used in place of the flame ionization detector used in the previous experiment. The spectra of the four new peaks in Figure 3B (peak numbers 10, 11, 12 and 13) are shown in Figures 4A-D, respectively. Comparison of the spectrum obtained for the standards with that obtained for the four peaks from the transgenic lines confirms the identity of the four new peaks. On the basis of the three characteristic peaks at M/Z 187, 270 and 299, peak 10 is unambiguously identified as O-TMS-methylricinoleate. On the basis of the three characteristic peaks at M/Z 185, 270 and 299, peak 11 is unambiguously identified as O-TS-methyldensipoleate. On the basis of the three characteristic peaks at M/Z 187, 298 and 327, peak 12 is unambiguously identified as O-TS-methyllesqueroleate. On the basis of the three characteristic peaks at M/Z 185, 298 and 327, peak 13 is unambiguously identified as O-TS-methylauricoleate.

These results unequivocally demonstrate the identity of the fah12 cDNA as encoding a hydroxylase that hydroxylates both oleic acid to produce ricinoleic acid and also hydroxylates icosenoic acid to produce lesquerolic acid. These results also provide additional evidence that the hydroxylase can be functionally expressed in a heterologous plant

species in such a way that the enzyme is catalytically functional. These results also demonstrate that expression of this hydroxylase gene leads to accumulation of ricinoleic, lesquerolic, densipolic and auricollic acids in a plant species that does not normally accumulate hydroxylated fatty acids in extractable lipids.

The present inventors expected to find lesquerolic acid in the transgenic plants based on the biochemical evidence suggesting broad substrate specificity of the kappa hydroxylase. By contrast, the accumulation of densipolic and auricollic acids was less predictable. Since *Arabidopsis* does not normally contain significant quantities of the non-hydroxylated precursors of these fatty acids which could serve as substrates for the hydroxylase, it appears that one or more of the three n-3 fatty acid desaturases known in *Arabidopsis* (e.g., fad3, fad7, fad8; reviewed in Gibson et al., 1995) are capable of desaturating the hydroxylated compounds at the n-3 position. That is, densipolic acid is produced by the action of an n-3 desaturase on ricinoleic acid. Auricollic acid is produced by the action of an n-3 desaturase on lesquerolic acid. Because it is located in the endoplasmic reticulum, the fad3 desaturase is almost certainly responsible. This can be tested in the future by producing fah12-containing transgenic plants of the fad3-deficient mutant of *Arabidopsis* (similar experiments can be done with fad7 and fad8). It is also formally possible that the enzymes that normally elongate 18:1<sup>cisΔ9</sup> to 20:1<sup>cisΔ11</sup> may elongate 12OH-18:1<sup>cisΔ9</sup> to 14OH-20:1<sup>cisΔ11</sup>, and 12OH-18:2<sup>cisΔ9,15</sup> to 14OH-20:2<sup>cisΔ11,17</sup>.

The amount of the various fatty acids in seed, leaf and root lipids of the control and transgenic plants is also presented in Table 1. Although the amount of hydroxylated fatty acids produced in this example is less than desired for production of ricinoleate and other hydroxylated fatty acids from plants, numerous improvements may be envisioned that will increase the level of accumulation of hydroxylated fatty acids in plants that express the *fah12* or related hydroxylase genes. Improvements in the level and tissue specificity of expression of the hydroxylase gene are envisioned. Methods to accomplish this by the use of strong, seed-specific promoters such as the *B. napus* napin promoter will be obvious to one skilled in the art. Additional improvements are envisioned that involve modification of the enzymes which cleave hydroxylated fatty acids from phosphatidylcholine, reduction in the activities of enzymes which degrade hydroxylated fatty acids and replacement of acyltransferases which transfer hydroxylated fatty acids to the sn-1, sn-2 and sn-3 positions of glycerolipids. Although genes for these enzymes have not been described in the scientific literature, their utility in improving the level of production of hydroxylated fatty acids can be readily appreciated based on the results of biochemical investigations of ricinoleate synthesis.

Although *Arabidopsis* is not an economically important plant species, it is widely accepted by plant biologists as a model for higher plants. Therefore, the inclusion of this example is intended to demonstrate the general utility of the invention described here to the modification of oil

composition in higher plants. One advantage of studying the expression of this novel gene in *Arabidopsis* is the existence in this system of a large body of knowledge on lipid metabolism, as well as the availability of a collection of mutants which can be used to provide useful information on the biochemistry of fatty acid hydroxylation in plant species. Another advantage is the ease of transposing any of the information obtained on metabolism of ricinoleate in *Arabidopsis* to closely related species such as the crop plants *Brassica napus*, *Brassica juncea* or *Crambe abyssinica* in order to mass produce ricinoleate, lesqueroleate or other hydroxylated fatty acids for industrial use. The kappa hydroxylase is useful for the production of ricinoleate or lesqueroleate in any plant species that accumulates significant levels of the precursors, oleic acid and icosanoic acid. Of particular interest are genetically modified varieties that accumulate high levels of oleic acid. Such varieties are currently available for sunflower and canola. Production of lesquerolic acid and related hydroxy fatty acids can be achieved in species that accumulate high levels of icosanoic acid or other long chain monoenoic acids. Such plants may in the future be produced by genetic engineering of plants that do not normally make such precursors. Thus, the use of the kappa hydroxylase will be of general utility.

EXAMPLE 2. ISOLATION OF LESQUERELLA KAPPA  
HYDROXYLASE GENOMIC CLONE

Overview

Regions of nucleotide sequence that were  
5 conserved in both the castor kappa hydroxylase and  
the *Arabidopsis* fad2  $\Delta 12$  fatty acid desaturase were  
used to design oligonucleotide primers. These were  
used with genomic DNA from *Lesquerella fendleri* to  
10 amplify fragments of several homologous genes. These  
amplified fragments were then used as hybridization  
probes to identify full length genomic clones from a  
genomic library of *L. fendleri*.

Hydroxylated fatty acids are specific to the  
seed tissue of *Lesquerella* sp., and are not found to  
15 any appreciable extent in vegetative tissues. One of  
the two genes identified by this method was  
expressed in both leaves and developing seeds and is  
therefore thought to correspond to the  $\Delta 12$  fatty  
acid desaturase. The other gene was expressed at  
20 high levels in developing seeds but was not  
expressed or was expressed at very low levels in  
leaves and is the kappa hydroxylase from this  
species. The identity of the gene as a fatty acyl  
hydroxylase was established by functional expression  
25 of the gene in yeast.

The identity of this gene will also be  
established by introducing the gene into transgenic  
*Arabidopsis* plants and showing that it causes the  
accumulation of ricinoleic acid, lesquerolic acid,  
30 densipolic acid and auricolic acid in seed lipids.

The various steps involved in this process  
are described in detail below. Unless otherwise  
indicated, routine methods for manipulating nucleic



acids, bacteria and phage were as described by Sambrook et al. (1989).

Isolation of a fragment of the *Lesquerella kappa* hydroxylase gene

5 Oligonucleotide primers for the amplification of the *L. fendleri kappa* hydroxylase were designed by choosing regions of high deduced amino acid sequence homology between the castor kappa hydroxylase and the *Arabidopsis*  $\Delta 12$  desaturase  
10 (fad2). Because most amino acids are encoded by several different codons, these oligonucleotides were designed to encode all possible codons that could encode the corresponding amino acids.

The sequence of these mixed oligonucleotides  
15 was Oligo 1: TAYWSNCAYMGNMGNCA YCA (SEQ ID NO:14) and Oligo 2: RTGRTGNGCNACRTGNGTRTC (SEQ ID NO:15) where Y = C+T, W = A+T, S = G+C, N = A+G+C+T, M = A+C, and R = A+G.

These oligonucleotides were used to amplify a  
20 fragment of DNA from *L. fendleri* genomic DNA by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using the following conditions: Approximately 100 ng of genomic DNA was added to a solution containing 25 pmol of each primer, 1.5 U Taq polymerase (Boehringer Mannheim),  
25 200 uM of dNTPs, 50 mM KCl, 10 mM Tris.Cl (pH 9), 0.1% (v/v) Triton X-100, 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 3% (v/v) formamide, to a final volume of 50  $\mu$ l.

Amplifications conditions were: 4 min denaturation step at 94°C, followed by 30 cycles of 92°C for 1  
30 min, 55°C for 1 min, 72°C for 2 min. A final extension step closed the program at 72°C for 5 min.

PCR products of approximately 540 bp were observed following electrophoretic separation of the

products of the PCR reaction in agarose gels. Two of these fragments were cloned into pBluescript (Stratagene) to give rise to plasmids pLesq2 and pLesq3. The sequence of the inserts in these two plasmids was determined by the chain termination method. The sequence of the insert in pLesq2 is presented as Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO:1) and the sequence of the insert in pLesq3 is presented as Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:2). The high degree of sequence identity between the two clones indicated that they were both potential candidates to be either a  $\Delta 12$  desaturase or a kappa hydroxylase.

#### Northern analysis

In *L. fendleri*, hydroxylated fatty acids are found in large amounts in seed oils but are not found in appreciable amounts in leaves. An important criterion in discriminating between a fatty acyl desaturase and kappa hydroxylase is that the kappa hydroxylase gene is expected to be expressed more highly in tissues which have high level of hydroxylated fatty acids than in other tissues. In contrast, all plant tissues should contain mRNA for an  $\omega 6$  fatty acyl desaturase since diunsaturated fatty acids are found in the lipids of all tissues in most or all plants.

Therefore, it was of great interest to determine whether the gene corresponding to pLesq2 was also expressed only in seeds, or is also expressed in other tissues. This question was addressed by testing for hybridization of pLesq2 to RNA purified from developing seeds and from leaves.

Total RNA was purified from developing seeds and young leaves of *L. fendleri* using an Rneasy RNA

extraction kit (Qiagen), according to the manufacturer's instructions. RNA concentrations were quantified by UV spectrophotometry at  $\lambda=260$  and 280 nm. In order to ensure even loading of the gel to be  
5 used for Northern blotting, RNA concentrations were further adjusted after recording fluorescence under UV light of RNA samples stained with ethidium bromide and run on a test denaturing gel.

Total RNA prepared as described above from  
10 leaves and developing seeds was electrophoresed through an agarose gel containing formaldehyde (Iba et al., 1993). An equal quantity (10  $\mu$ g) of RNA was loaded in both lanes, and RNA standards (0.16-1.77 kb ladder, Gibco-BRL) were loaded in a third lane.  
15 Following electrophoresis, RNA was transferred from the gel to a nylon membrane (Hybond N+, Amersham) and fixed to the filter by exposure to UV light.

A  $^{32}$ P-labelled probe was prepared from insert DNA of clone pLesq2 by random priming and hybridized  
20 to the membrane overnight at 52°C, after it had been prehybridized for 2 h. The prehybridization solution contained 5X SSC, 10X Denhardt's solution, 0.1% SDS, 0.1M KPO<sub>4</sub> pH 6.8, 100  $\mu$ g/ml salmon sperm DNA. The hybridization solution had the same basic  
25 composition, but no SDS, and it contained 10% dextran sulfate and 30% formamide. The blot was washed once in 2X SSC, 0.5% SDS at 65°C then in 1X SSC at the same temperature.

Brief (30 min) exposure of the blot to X-ray  
30 film revealed that the probe pLesq2 hybridized to a single band only in the seed RNA lane (Figure 7). The blot was re-probed with the insert from pLesq3 gene, which gave bands of similar intensity in the seed and leaf lanes (Figure 7).

These results show that the gene corresponding to the clone pLesq2 is highly and specifically expressed in seed of *L. fendleri*. In conjunction with knowledge of the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence, strong seed-specific expression of the gene corresponding to the insert in pLesq2 is a convincing indicator of the role of the enzyme in synthesis of hydroxylated fatty acids in the seed oil.

10 Characterization of a genomic clone of the kappa hydroxylase

Genomic DNA was prepared from young leaves of *L. fendleri* as described by Murray and Thompson (1980). A *Sau3AI*-partial digest genomic library constructed in the vector  $\lambda$ DashII (Stratagene, 11011 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla CA 92037) was prepared by partially digesting 500  $\mu$ g of DNA, size-selecting the DNA on a sucrose gradient (Sambrook et al., 1989), and ligating the DNA (12 kb average size) to the *Bam*HI-digested arms of  $\lambda$ DashII. The entire ligation was packaged according to the manufacturer's conditions and plated on *E. coli* strain XL1-Blue MRA-P2 (Stratagene). This yielded  $5 \times 10^5$  primary recombinant clones. The library was then amplified according to the manufacturer's conditions. A fraction of the genomic library was plated on *E. coli* XL1-Blue and resulting plaques (150,000) were lifted to charged nylon membranes (Hybond N+, Amersham), according to the manufacturer's conditions. DNA was crosslinked to the filters under UV in a Stratalinker (Stratagene).

Several clones carrying genomic sequences corresponding to the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase were

isolated by probing the membranes with the insert from pLesq2 that was PCR-amplified with internal primers and labelled with  $^{32}\text{P}$  by random priming. The filters were prehybridized for 2 hours at 65°C in 7% SDS, 1mM EDTA, 0.25 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$  (pH 7.2), 1% BSA and hybridized to the probe for 16 hours in the same solution. The filters were sequentially washed at 65°C in solutions containing 2 X SSC, 1 X SSC, 0.5 X SSC in addition to 0.1 % SDS. A 2.6 kb XbaI fragment containing the complete coding sequence for the kappa hydroxylase and approximately 1 kb of the 5' upstream region was subcloned into the corresponding site of pBluescript KS to produce plasmid pLesq-Hyd and the sequence determined completely using an automatic sequencer by the dideoxy chain termination method. Sequence data was analyzed using the program DNASIS (Hitachi Company).

The sequence of the insert in clone pLesq-Hyd is shown in Figures 8A-B. The sequence entails 1855 bp of contiguous DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:3). The clone encodes a 401 bp 5' untranslated region (i.e., nucleotides preceding the first ATG codon), an 1152 bp open reading frame, and a 302 bp 3' untranslated region. The open reading frame encodes a 384 amino acid protein with a predicted molecular weight of 44,370 (SEQ ID NO:4). The amino terminus lacks features of a typical signal peptide (von Heijne, 1985).

The exact translation-initiation methionine has not been experimentally determined, but on the basis of deduced amino acid sequence homology to the castor kappa hydroxylase (noted below) is thought to be the methionine encoded by the first ATG codon at nucleotide 402.

Comparison of the pLesq-Hyd deduced amino acid sequence with sequences of membrane-bound desaturases and the castor hydroxylase (Figures 9A-B) indicates that pLesq-Hyd is homologous to these genes. This figure shows an alignment of the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase (SEQ ID NO:4) with the castor hydroxylase (van de Loo et al., 1995), the *Arabidopsis fad2* cDNA which encodes an endoplasmic reticulum-localized  $\Delta 12$  desaturase (called fad2) (Okuley et al., 1994), two soybean fad2 desaturase clones, a *Brassica napus* fad2 clone, a *Zea mays* fad2 clone and partial sequence of a *R. communis* fad2 clone.

The high degree of sequence homology indicates that the gene products are of similar function. For instance, the overall homology between the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase and the *Arabidopsis fad2* desaturase was 92.2% similarity and 84.8% identity and the two sequences differed in length by only one amino acid.

#### Southern hybridization

Southern analysis was used to examine the copy number of the genes in the *L. fendleri* genome corresponding to the clone pLesq-Hyd. Genomic DNA (5  $\mu$ g) was digested with *EcoRI*, *HindIII* and *XbaI* and separated on a 0.9% agarose gel. DNA was alkali-blotted to a charged nylon membrane (Hybond N+, Amersham), according to the manufacturer's protocol. The blot was prehybridized for 2 hours at 65°C in 7% SDS, 1mM EDTA, 0.25 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$  (pH 7.2), 1% BSA and hybridized to the probe for 16 hours in the same solution with pLesq-Hyd insert PCR-amplified with internal primers and labelled with  $^{32}\text{P}$  by random

priming. The filters were sequentially washed at 65°C in solutions containing 2 X SSC, 1 X SSC, 0.5 X SSC in addition to 0.1 % SDS, then exposed to X-ray film.

5           The probe hybridized with a single band in each digest of *L. fendleri* DNA (Figure 10), indicating that the gene from which pLesq-Hyd was transcribed is present in a single copy in the *L. fendleri* genome.

10   Expression of pLesq-Hyd in Transgenic Plants

          There are a wide variety of plant promoter sequences which may be used to cause tissue-specific expression of cloned genes in transgenic plants. For instance, the napin promoter and the acyl carrier  
15   protein promoters have previously been used in the modification of seed oil composition by expression of an antisense form of a desaturase (Knutson et al., 1992). Similarly, the promoter for the  $\beta$ -subunit of soybean  $\beta$ -conglycinin has been shown to  
20   be highly active and to result in tissue-specific expression in transgenic plants of species other than soybean (Bray et al., 1987). Thus, other promoters which lead to seed-specific expression may also be employed for the production of modified seed  
25   oil composition. Such modifications of the invention described here will be obvious to one skilled in the art.

          Constructs for expression of *L. fendleri* kappa hydroxylase in plant cells are prepared as  
30   follows: A 13 kb *SalI* fragment containing the pLesq-Hyg gene was ligated into the *XhoI* site of binary Ti plasmid vector pSLJ44026 (Jones et al., 1992) (Figure 11) to produce plasmid pTi-Hyd and

transformed into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strains GV3101 by electroporation. Strain GV3101 (Koncz and Schell, 1986) contains a disarmed Ti plasmid. Cells for electroporation were prepared as follows. GV3101 was grown in LB medium with reduced NaCl (5 g/l). A 250 ml culture was grown to  $OD_{600} = 0.6$ , then centrifuged at 4000 rpm (Sorvall GS-A rotor) for 15 min. The supernatant was aspirated immediately from the loose pellet, which was gently resuspended in 500 ml ice-cold water. The cells were centrifuged as before, resuspended in 30 ml ice-cold water, transferred to a 30 ml tube and centrifuged at 5000 rpm (Sorvall SS-34 rotor) for 5 min. This was repeated three times, resuspending the cells consecutively in 30 ml ice-cold water, 30 ml ice-cold 10% glycerol, and finally in 0.75 ml ice-cold 10% glycerol. These cells were aliquoted, frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Electroporations employed a Biorad Gene Pulser instrument using cold 2 mm-gap cuvettes containing 40  $\mu\text{l}$  cells and 1  $\mu\text{l}$  of DNA in water, at a voltage of 2.5 KV, and 200 Ohms resistance. The electroporated cells were diluted with 1 ml SOC medium (Sambrook et al., 1989, page A2) and incubated at  $28^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2-4 h before plating on medium containing kanamycin (50 mg/l).

*Arabidopsis thaliana* can be transformed with the *Agrobacterium* cells containing pTi-Hyd as described in Example 1 above. Similarly, the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids in the transgeneic *Arabidopsis* plants can be demonstrated by the methods described in Example 1 above.



Constitutive expression of the *L. fendleri*  
hydroxylase in transgenic plants

A 1.5 kb *EcoRI* fragment from pLesq-Hyg comprising the entire coding region of the hydroxylase was gel purified, then cloned into the corresponding site of pBluescript KS (Stratagene). Plasmid DNA from a number of recombinant clones was then restricted with *PstI*, which should cut only once in the insert and once in the vector polylinker sequence. Release of a 920 bp fragment with *PstI* indicated the right orientation of the insert for further manipulations. DNA from one such clone was further restricted with *SalI*, the 5' overhangs filled-in with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I, then cut with *SacI*. The insert fragment was gel purified, and cloned between the *SmaI* and *SacI* sites of pBI121 (Clontech) behind the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter. After checking that the sequence of the junction between insert and vector DNA was appropriate, plasmid DNA from a recombinant clone was used to transform *A. tumefaciens* (GV3101). Kanamycin resistant colonies were then used for *in planta* transformation of *A. thaliana* as previously described.

DNA was extracted from kanamycin resistant seedlings and used to PCR-amplify selected fragments from the hydroxylase using nested primers. When fragments of the expected size could be amplified, corresponding plants were grown in the greenhouse or on agar plates, and fatty acids extracted from fully expanded leaves, roots and dry seeds. GC-MS analysis was then performed as previously described to characterize the different fatty acid species and

detect accumulation of hydroxy fatty acids in transgenic tissues.

Expression of the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase in yeast

In order to demonstrate that the cloned *L. fendleri* gene encoded a kappa hydroxylase, the gene was expressed in yeast cells under transcriptional control of an inducible promoter and the yeast cells were examined for the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids by GC-MS.

In a first step, a lambda genomic clone containing the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase gene was cut with *EcoRI*, and a resulting 1400 bp fragment containing the coding sequence of the hydroxylase gene was subcloned in the *EcoRI* site of the pBluescript KS vector (Stratagene). This subclone, pLesqcod, contains the coding region of the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase plus some additional 3' sequence.

In a second step, pLesqcod was cut with *HindIII* and *XbaI*, and the insert fragment was cloned into the corresponding sites of the yeast expression vector pYes2 (Invitrogen; Figure 12). This subclone, pLesqYes, contains the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase in the sense orientation relative to the 3' side of the *Gall* promoter. This promoter is inducible by the addition of galactose to the growth medium, and is repressed upon addition of glucose. In addition, the vector carries origins of replication allowing the propagation of pLesqYes in both yeast and *E. coli*.

Transformation of *S. cerevisiae* host strain CGY2557

Yeast strain CGY2557 (*MAT $\alpha$* , *GAL'*, *ura3-52*, *leu2-3*, *trp1*, *ade2-1*, *lys2-1*, *his5*, *can1-100*) was

grown overnight at 28°C in YPD liquid medium (10 g yeast extract, 20 g bacto-peptone, 20 g dextrose per liter), and an aliquot of the culture was inoculated into 100 ml fresh YPD medium and grown until the  
5 OD<sub>600</sub> of the culture was 1. Cells were then collected by centrifugation and resuspended in about 200μl of supernatant. 40μl aliquots of the cell suspension were then mixed with 1-2μg DNA and electroporated in 2 mm-gap cuvettes using a Biorad Gene Pulser  
10 instrument set at 600 V, 200 Ω, 25 μF, 160μl YPD was added and the cells were plated on selective medium containing glucose. Selective medium consisted of 6.7 g yeast nitrogen base (Difco), 0.4 g casamino acids (Difco), 0.02 g adenine sulfate, 0.03 g L-leucine,  
15 0.02 g L-tryptophan, 0.03 g L-lysine-HCl, 0.03 g L-histidine-HCl, 2% glucose, water to 1 liter. Plates were solidified using 1.5% Difco Bacto-agar. Transformant colonies appeared after 3 to 4 days incubation at 28°C.

20 Expression of the *L. fenderi* hydroxylase in yeast

Independent transformant colonies from the previous experiment were used to inoculate 5 ml of selective medium containing either 2% glucose (gene repressed) or 2% galactose (gene induced) as the  
25 sole carbon source. Independent colonies of CGY2557 transformed with pYES2 containing no insert were used as controls.

After 2 days of growth at 28°C, an aliquot of the cultures was used to inoculate 5 ml of fresh  
30 selective medium. The new culture was placed at 16°C and grown for 9 days.

Fatty acid analysis of yeast expressing the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase

Cells from 2.5 ml of culture were pelleted at 1800g, and the supernatant was aspirated as  
5 completely as possible. Pellets were then dispersed  
in 1 ml of 1 N methanolic HCl (Supelco, Bellefonte,  
PA). Transmethylation and derivatization of hydroxy  
fatty acids were performed as described above. After  
drying under nitrogen, samples were redissolved in  
10 50 $\mu$ l chloroform before being analyzed by GC-MS.  
Samples were injected into an SP2330 fused-silica  
capillary column (30 m x 0.25 mm ID, 0.25 $\mu$ m film  
thickness, Supelco). The temperature profile was 100  
- 160°C, 25°C/min, 160 - 230°C, 10°C/min, 230°C, 3  
15 min, 230-100°C, 25°C/min. Flow rate was 0.9 ml/min.  
Fatty acids were analyzed using a Hewlett-Packard  
5971 series Msdetector.

Gas chromatograms of derivatized fatty acid  
methyl esters from induced cultures of yeast  
20 containing pLesqYes contained a novel peak that  
eluted at 7.6 min (Figure 13). O-TMS methyl  
ricinoleate eluted at exactly the same position on  
control chromatograms. This peak was not present in  
cultures lacking pLesqYes or in cultures containing  
25 pLesqYes grown on glucose (repressing conditions)  
rather than galactose (inducing conditions). Mass  
spectrometry of the peak (Figure 13) revealed that  
the peak has the same spectrum as O-TMS methyl  
ricinoleate. Thus, on the basis of chromatographic  
30 retention time and mass spectrum, it was concluded  
that the peak corresponded to O-TMS methyl  
ricinoleate. The presence of ricinoleate in the  
transgenic yeast cultures confirms the identity of  
the gene as a kappa hydroxylase of this invention.

EXAMPLE 3. OBTAINING OTHER PLANT FATTY ACYL  
HYDROXYLASES

The castor fah12 sequence could be used to identify other kappa hydroxylases by methods such as PCR and heterologous hybridization. However, because of the high degree of sequence similarity between  $\Delta 12$  desaturases and kappa hydroxylases, the prior art does not teach how to distinguish between the two kinds of enzymes without a functional test such as demonstrating activity in transgenic plants or another suitable host (e.g., transgenic microbial or animal cells). The identification of the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase provided for the development of criteria by which a hydroxylase and a desaturase may be distinguished solely on the basis of deduced amino acid sequence information.

Figures 9A-B show a sequence alignment of the castor and *L. fendleri* hydroxylase sequences with the castor hydroxylase sequence and all publicly available sequences for all plant microsomal  $\Delta 12$  fatty acid desaturases. Of the 384 amino acid residues in the castor hydroxylase sequence, more than 95% are identical to the corresponding residue in at least one of the desaturase sequences. Therefore, none of these residues are responsible for the catalytic differences between the hydroxylase and the desaturases. Of the remaining 16 residues in the castor hydroxylase and 14 residues in the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase, all but seven represent instances where the hydroxylase sequence has a conservative substitution compared with one or more of the desaturase sequences, or there is wide variability in the amino acid at that position in the various desaturases. By conservative, it is

meant that the following amino acids are functionally equivalent: Ser/Thr, Ile/Leu/Val/Met, Asp/Glu. Thus, these structural differences also cannot account for the catalytic differences between the desaturases and hydroxylases. This leaves just seven amino acid residues where both the castor hydroxylase and the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase differ from all of the known desaturases and where all of the known microsomal  $\Delta 12$  desaturases have the identical amino acid residue. These residues occur at positions 69, 111, 155, 226, 304, 331 and 333 of the alignment in Figure 9. Therefore, these seven sites distinguish hydroxylases from desaturases. Based on this analysis, the present inventors believe that any enzyme with greater than 60% sequence identity to one of the enzymes listed in Figure 9 can be classified as a hydroxylase if it differs from the sequence of the desaturases at these seven positions. Because of slight differences in the number of residues in a particular protein, the numbering may vary from protein to protein but the intent of the number system will be evident if the protein in question is aligned with the castor hydroxylase using the numbering system shown herein. Thus, in conjunction with the methods for using the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase gene to isolate homologous genes, the structural criterion disclosed here teaches how to isolate and identify plant kappa hydroxylase genes for the purpose of genetically modifying fatty acid composition as disclosed herein.

EXAMPLE 4 - USING HYDROXYLASES TO ALTER THE LEVEL OF  
FATTY ACID UNSATURATION

Evidence that kappa hydroxylases of this invention can be used to alter the level of fatty acid unsaturation was obtained from the analysis of transgenic plants that expressed the castor hydroxylase under control of the cauliflower mosaic virus promoter. The construction of the plasmids and the production of transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants was described in Example 1 (above). The fatty acid composition of seed lipids from wild type and six transgenic lines (1-2/a, 1-2/b, 1-3/b, 4F, 7E, 7F) is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Fatty acid composition of lipids from *Arabidopsis* seeds. The asterisk (\*) indicates that for some of these samples, the 18:3 and 20:1 peaks overlapped on the gas chromatograph and, therefore, the total amount of these two fatty acids is reported.

TABLE 2

Fatty acid	WT	1-2/a	1-2/b	1-3/b	4F	7E	7F
16:0	10.3	8.6	9.5	8.4	8.1	8.4	9
18:0	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.5	3.8	4.2
18:1	14.7	33	34.5	25.5	27.5	30.5	28.5
18:2	32.4	16.9	21	27.5	21.1	20.1	19.8
18:3	13.8	-	14.4	14.8	-	-	-
20:0	1.3	1.6	1	1.1	2.4	1.8	2
20:1	22.5	-	14.1	17.5	-	-	-
18:3 20:1*	-	31.2	-	-	32.1	30.8	30.6
Ricinoleic	0	0.6	0	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.9
Densipolic	0	0.6	0	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.6
Lesquerolic	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.6
Auricolc	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.1



The results in Table 2 show that expression of the castor hydroxylase in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants caused a substantial increase in the amount of oleic acid (18:1) in the seed lipids and an  
5 approximately corresponding decrease in the amount of linoleic acid (18:2). The average amount of oleic acid in the six transgenic lines was 29.9% versus 14.7% in the wild type.

The precise mechanism by which expression of  
10 the castor hydroxylase gene causes increased accumulation of oleic acid is not known. However, an understanding of the mechanism is not required in order to exploit this invention for the directed alteration of plant lipid fatty acid composition.  
15 Furthermore, it will be recognized by one skilled in the art that many improvements of this invention may be envisioned. Of particular interest will be the use of other promoters which have high levels of seed-specific expression.

20 Since hydroxylated fatty acids were not detected in the seed lipids of transgenic line 1-2b, it seems likely that it is not the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids per se that causes the effect of the castor hydroxylase gene on desaturase  
25 activity. Protein-protein interaction between the hydroxylase and the  $\Delta 12$ -oleate desaturase or another protein may be required for the overall reaction (e.g., cytochrome b5) or for the regulation of desaturase activity. For example, interaction  
30 between the hydroxylase and this other protein may suppress the activity of the desaturase. In particular, the quaternary structure of the membrane-bound desaturases has not been established. It is possible that these enzymes are active as

dimers or as multimeric complexes containing more than two subunits. Thus, if dimers or multimers form between the desaturase and the hydroxylase, the presence of the hydroxylase in the complex may  
5 disrupt the activity of the desaturase.

Transgenic plants may be produced in which the hydroxylase enzyme has been rendered inactive by the elimination of one or more of the histidine residues that have been proposed to bind iron  
10 molecules required for catalysis. Several of these histidine residues have been shown to be essential for desaturase activity by site directed mutagenesis (Shanklin et al., 1994). Codons encoding histidine residues in the castor hydroxylase gene will be  
15 changed to alanine residues as described by Shanklin et al. (1994). The modified genes will be introduced into transgenic plants of *Arabidopsis*, and possibly other species such as tobacco, by the methods described in Example 1 of this application.

20 In order to examine the effect on all tissues, the strong constitutive cauliflower mosaic virus promoter may be used to cause transcription of the modified genes. However, it will be recognized that in order to specifically examine the effect of  
25 expression of the mutant gene on seed lipids, a seed-specific promoter such as the *B. napus* napin promoter may be used. An expected outcome is that expression of the inactive hydroxylase protein in transgenic plants will inhibit the activity of the  
30 endoplasmic reticulum-localized  $\Delta 12$ -desaturase. Maximum inhibition will be obtained by expressing high levels of the mutant protein.

In a further embodiment of this invention, mutations that inactivate other hydroxylases, such

as the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase of this invention, may also be useful for decreasing the amount of endoplasmic reticulum-localized  $\Delta 12$ -desaturase activity in the same way as the castor gene. In a further embodiment of this invention, similar mutations of desaturase genes may also be used to inactivate endogenous desaturases. Thus, expression of catalytically inactive fad2 gene from *Arabidopsis* in transgenic *Arabidopsis* may inhibit the activity of the endogenous fad2 gene product.

Similarly, expression of the catalytically inactive forms of  $\Delta 12$ -desaturase from *Arabidopsis* or other plants in transgenic soybean, rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm or corn may lead to inactivation of endogenous  $\Delta 12$ -desaturase activity in these plants. In a further embodiment of this invention, expression of catalytically inactive forms of other desaturases such as the  $\Delta 15$ -desaturases may lead to inactivation of the corresponding desaturases.

An example of a class of mutants useful in the present invention are "dominant negative" mutants that block the function of a gene at the protein level (Herskowitz, 1987). A cloned gene is altered so that it encodes a mutant product capable of inhibiting the wild type gene product in a cell, thus causing the cell to be deficient in the function of that gene product. Inhibitory variants of a wild type product can be designed because proteins have multiple functional domains that can be mutated independently, e.g., oligomerization, substrate binding, catalysis, membrane association domains or the like. In general, dominant negative

proteins retain an intact, functional subset of the domains of the parent, wild type protein, but have the complement of that subset either missing or altered so as to be nonfunctional.

5           Whatever the precise basis for the inhibitory effect of the castor hydroxylase on desaturation, because the castor hydroxylase has very low nucleotide sequence homology (i.e., about 67%) to the *Arabidopsis* fad2 gene (encoding the endoplasmic  
10   reticulum-localized  $\Delta 12$ -desaturase), the inhibitory effect of this gene, which is provisionally called "protein-mediated inhibition" ("protibition"), may have broad utility because it does not depend on a high degree of nucleotide sequence homology between  
15   the transgene and the endogenous target gene. In particular, the castor hydroxylase may be used to inhibit the endoplasmic reticulum-localized  $\Delta 12$ -desaturase activity of all higher plants. Of particular relevance are those species used for oil  
20   production. These include but are not limited to rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS

25           By the above examples, demonstration of critical factors in the production of novel hydroxylated fatty acids by expression of a kappa hydroxylase gene from castor in transgenic plants is described. In addition, a complete cDNA sequence of  
30   the *Lesquerella fendleri* kappa hydroxylase is also provided. A full sequence of the castor hydroxylase is also given with various constructs for use in host cells. Through this invention, one can obtain

the amino acid and nucleic acid sequences which encode plant fatty acyl hydroxylases from a variety of sources and for a variety of applications. Also revealed is a novel method by which the level of fatty acid desaturation can be altered in a directed way through the use of genetically altered hydroxylase or desaturase genes.

All publications mentioned in this specification are indicative of the level of skill of those skilled in the art to which this invention pertains. All publications are herein incorporated by reference to the same extent as if each individual publication was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference.

Although the foregoing invention has been described in some detail by way of illustration and example for purposes of clarity of understanding, it will be obvious that certain changes and modifications may be practiced within the scope of the appended claims.

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## SEQUENCE LISTING

- (1) GENERAL INFORMATION:
- (i) APPLICANT: Somerville, Chris  
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van de Loo, Frank  
Boddupalli, Sekhar S.
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Production of Hydroxylated Fatty Acids in Genetically Modified Plants
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 15
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(A) MEDIUM TYPE: 3.5 inch, 1.44 MB storage  
(B) COMPUTER: IBM compatible  
(C) OPERATING SYSTEM: DOS 5.0  
(D) SOFTWARE: Word Perfect 5.1
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA;  
(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: not yet assigned  
(B) FILING DATE: February 6, 1997  
(C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1
- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 543 nucleotides  
(B) TYPE: nucleotide  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:
- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| TATTGGCACC GGCGGCACCA TTCCAACAAT GGATCCCTAG | 40  |
| AAAAAGATGA AGTCTTTGTC CCACCTAAGA AAGCTGCAGT | 80  |
| CANATGGTAT GTCAAATACC TCAACAACCC TCTTGGACGC | 120 |
| ATTCTGGTGT TAACAGTTCA GTTTATCCTC GGGTGGCCTT | 160 |

TGTATCTAGC CTTTAATGTA TCAGGTAGAC CTTATGATGG	200
TTTCGCTTCA CATTTCTTCC CTCATGCACC TATCTTTAAG	240
GACCGTGAAC GTCTCCAGAT ATACATCTCA GATGCTGGTA	280
TTCTAGCTGT CTGTTATGGT CTTTACCGTT ACGCTGCTTC	320
ACAAGGATTG ACTGCTATGA TCTGCGTCTA CGGAGTACCG	360
CTTTTGATAG TGAACTTTTT CCTTGTCTTG GTCACTTTCT	400
TGCAGCACAC TCATCCTTCA TTACCTCACT ATGATTCAAC	440
CGAGTGGGAA TGGATTAGAG GAGCTTTGGT TACGGTAGAC	480
AGAGACTATG GAATCTTGAA CAAGGTGTTT CACAACATAA	520
CAGACACCCA CGTAGCACAC CAC	543

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 544 nucleotides
- (B) TYPE: nucleotide
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

TATAGGCACC GGAGGCACCA TTCCAACACA GGATCCCTCG	40
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CAAGTGGTAC GCGGAATACC TCAACAACCC TCCTGGTCGC	120
ATCATGATGT TAACTGTCCA GTTCGTCCTC GGATGGCCCT	160
TGTACTIONAGC CTTCAACGTT TCTGGCAGAC CCTACAATGG	200
TTTCGCTTCC CATTTCTTCC CCAATGCTCC TATCTACAAC	240
GACCGTGAAC GCCTCCAGAT TTACATCTCT GATGCTGGTA	280
TTCTAGCCGT CTGTTATGGT CTTTACCGTT ACGCTGTTGC	320
ACAAGGACTA GCCTCAATGA TCTGTCTAAA CGGAGTTCCG	360
CTTCTGATAG TTAACTTTTT CCTCGTCTTG ATCACTTACT	400

TACAACACAC TCACCCTGCG TTGCCTCACT ATGATTCATC	440
AGAGTGGGAT TGGCTTAGAG GAGCTTTAGC TACTGTAGAC	480
AGAGACTATG GAATCTTGAA CAAGGTGTTC CATAACATCA	520
CAGACACCCA CGTCGCACAC CACT	544

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1855 nucleotides
- (B) TYPE: nucleotide
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

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TTATTCATCA AATACTAAAT ACTACATTAC TTGTTGCTGC	160
CTACTTCTCC TATTTCTCTCC GCCACCCATT TTGGACCCAC	200
GANCCTTCCA TTAAACCCT CTCTCGTGCT ATTCACCAGA	240
AGAGAAGCCA AGAGAGAGAG AGAGAGAATG TTCTGAGGAT	280
CATTGTCTTC TTCATCGTTA TTAACGTAAG TTTTTTTTGA	320
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ACTGTTTCCTT CTTTTGATAT TTTCAGCTTC TTGAATTCAA	400
GATGGGTGCT GGTGGAAGAA TAATGGTTAC CCCCTCTTCC	440
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CCCACAGCAT TGTTTCAAGC GCTCTATCCC TCGTTCTTTC	560
TCCTACCTTC TCACAGATAT CACTTTAGTT TCTTGCTTCT	600
ACTACGTTGC CACAAATTAC TTCTCTCTTC TTCCTCAGCC	640

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CCAACAATGG	ATCTCTCGAG	AAAGATGAAG	TCTTTGTCCC	880
ACCGAAGAAA	GCTGCAGTCA	AATGGTATGT	TAAATACCTC	920
AACAACCCTC	TTGGACGCAT	TCTGGTGTTA	ACAGTTCAGT	960
TTATCCTCGG	GTGGCCTTTG	TATCTAGCCT	TTAATGTATC	1000
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CATGCACCTA	TCTTTAAAGA	CCGAGAACGC	CTCCAGATAT	1080
ACATCTCAGA	TGCTGGTATT	CTAGCTGTCT	GTTATGGTCT	1120
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AGGTGTTCCA	TAAATAACA	GACACACATG	TGGCTCATCA	1360
TCTCTTTGCA	ACTATAACCG	ATTATAACGC	AATGGAAGCT	1400
ACAGAGGCGA	TAAAGCCAAT	ACTTGGTGAT	TACTACCACT	1440
TCGATGGAAC	ACCGTGGTAT	GTGGCCATGT	ATAGGGAAGC	1480
AAAGGAGTGT	CTCTATGTAG	AACCGGATAC	GGAACGTGGG	1520
AAGAAAGGTG	TCTACTATTA	CAACAATAAG	TTATGAGGCT	1560
GATAGGGCGA	GAGAAGTGCA	ATTATCAATC	TTCATTTCCT	1600
TGTTTTAGGT	GTCTTGTTTA	AGAAGCTATG	CTTTGTTTCA	1640
ATAATCTCAG	AGTCCATNTA	GTTGTGTTCT	GGTGCATTTT	1680

GCCTAGTTAT GTGGTGTCGG AAGTTAGTGT TCAAAGTCT	1720
TCCTGCTGTG CTGCCCAGTG AAGAACAAGT TTACGTGTTT	1760
AAAATACTCG GAACGAATTG ACCACAAAT ATCCAAAACC	1800
GGCTATCCGA ATTCCATATC CGAAAACCGG ATATCCAAAT	1840
TTCCAGAGTA CTTAG	1855

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS:
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Ile Met Val Thr	10
Pro Ser Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Glu Ala	20
Leu Lys Arg Gly Pro Cys Glu Lys Pro Pro	30
Phe Thr Val Lys Asp Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile	40
Pro Gln His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro	50
Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Leu Thr Asp Ile	60
Thr Leu Val Ser Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala	70
Thr Asn Tyr Phe Ser Leu Leu Pro Gln Pro	80
Leu Ser Thr Tyr Leu Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr	90
Trp Val Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly	100

Ile	Trp	Val	Ile	Gly	His	Glu	Cys	Gly	His	105	110
His	Ala	Phe	Ser	Asp	Tyr	Gln	Trp	Val	Asp	115	120
Asp	Thr	Val	Gly	Phe	Ile	Phe	His	Ser	Phe	125	130
Leu	Leu	Val	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Ser	Trp	Lys	Tyr	135	140
Ser	His	Arg	Arg	His	His	Ser	Asn	Asn	Gly	145	150
Ser	Leu	Glu	Lys	Asp	Glu	Val	Phe	Val	Pro	155	160
Pro	Lys	Lys	Ala	Ala	Val	Lys	Trp	Tyr	Val	165	170
Lys	Tyr	Leu	Asn	Asn	Pro	Leu	Gly	Arg	Ile	175	180
Leu	Val	Leu	Thr	Val	Gln	Phe	Ile	Leu	Gly	185	190
Trp	Pro	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Phe	Asn	Val	Ser	195	200
Gly	Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Gly	Phe	Ala	Ser	His	205	210
Phe	Phe	Pro	His	Ala	Pro	Ile	Phe	Lys	Asp	215	220
Arg	Glu	Arg	Leu	Gln	Ile	Tyr	Ile	Ser	Asp	225	230
Ala	Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala	Val	Cys	Tyr	Gly	Leu	235	240
Tyr	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ser	Gln	Gly	Leu	Thr	245	250
Ala	Met	Ile	Cys	Val	Tyr	Gly	Val	Pro	Leu	255	260
Leu	Ile	Val	Asn	Phe	Phe	Leu	Val	Leu	Val	265	270

Thr	Phe	Leu	Gln	His	Thr	His	Pro	Ser	Leu	275	280
Pro	His	Tyr	Asp	Ser	Thr	Glu	Trp	Glu	Trp	285	290
Ile	Arg	Gly	Ala	Leu	Val	Thr	Val	Asp	Arg	295	300
Asp	Tyr	Gly	Ile	Leu	Asn	Lys	Val	Phe	His	305	310
Asn	Ile	Thr	Asp	Thr	His	Val	Ala	His	His	315	320
Leu	Phe	Ala	Thr	Ile	Pro	His	Tyr	Asn	Ala	325	330
Met	Glu	Ala	Thr	Glu	Ala	Ile	Lys	Pro	Ile	335	340
Leu	Gly	Asp	Tyr	Tyr	His	Phe	Asp	Gly	Thr	345	350
Pro	Trp	Tyr	Val	Ala	Met	Tyr	Arg	Glu	Ala	355	360
Lys	Glu	Cys	Leu	Tyr	Val	Glu	Pro	Asp	Thr	365	370
Glu	Arg	Gly	Lys	Lys	Gly	Val	Tyr	Tyr	Tyr	375	380
Asn	Asn	Lys	Leu								

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 387 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS:
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

Met	Gly	Gly	Gly	Gly	Arg	Met	Ser	Thr	Val	5	10
Ile	Thr	Ser	Asn	Asn	Ser	Glu	Lys	Lys	Gly	15	20



Gly	Ser	Ser	His	Leu	Lys	Arg	Ala	Pro	His	
				25					30	
Thr	Lys	Pro	Pro	Phe	Thr	Leu	Gly	Asp	Leu	
				35					40	
Lys	Arg	Ala	Ile	Pro	Pro	His	Cys	Phe	Glu	
				45					50	
Arg	Ser	Phe	Val	Arg	Ser	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Val	
				55					60	
Ala	Tyr	Asp	Val	Cys	Leu	Ser	Phe	Leu	Phe	
				65					70	
Tyr	Ser	Ile	Ala	Thr	Asn	Phe	Phe	Pro	Tyr	
				75					80	
Ile	Ser	Ser	Pro	Leu	Ser	Tyr	Val	Ala	Trp	
				85					90	
Leu	Val	Tyr	Trp	Leu	Phe	Gln	Gly	Cys	Ile	
				95					100	
Leu	Thr	Gly	Leu	Trp	Val	Ile	Gly	His	Glu	
				105					110	
Cys	Gly	His	His	Ala	Phe	Ser	Glu	Tyr	Gln	
				115					120	
Leu	Ala	Asp	Asp	Ile	Val	Gly	Leu	Ile	Val	
				125					130	
His	Ser	Ala	Leu	Leu	Val	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Ser	
				135					140	
Trp	Lys	Tyr	Ser	His	Arg	Arg	His	His	Ser	
				145					150	
Asn	Ile	Gly	Ser	Leu	Glu	Arg	Asp	Glu	Val	
				155					160	
Phe	Val	Pro	Lys	Ser	Lys	Ser	Lys	Ile	Ser	
				165					170	
Trp	Tyr	Ser	Lys	Tyr	Ser	Asn	Asn	Pro	Pro	
				175					180	
Gly	Arg	Val	Leu	Thr	Leu	Ala	Ala	Thr	Leu	
				185					190	

Leu	Leu	Gly	Trp	Pro	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Phe
				195					200
Asn	Val	Ser	Gly	Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Arg	Phe
				205					210
Ala	Cys	His	Tyr	Asp	Pro	Tyr	Gly	Pro	Ile
				215					220
Phe	Ser	Glu	Arg	Glu	Arg	Leu	Gln	Ile	Tyr
				225					230
Ile	Ala	Asp	Leu	Gly	Ile	Phe	Ala	Thr	Thr
				235					240
Phe	Val	Leu	Tyr	Gln	Ala	Thr	Met	Ala	Lys
				245					250
Gly	Leu	Ala	Trp	Val	Met	Arg	Ile	Tyr	Gly
				255					260
Val	Pro	Leu	Leu	Ile	Val	Asn	Cys	Phe	Leu
				265					270
Val	Met	Ile	Thr	Tyr	Leu	Gln	His	Thr	His
				275					280
Pro	Ala	Ile	Pro	Arg	Tyr	Gly	Ser	Ser	Glu
				285					290
Trp	Asp	Trp	Leu	Arg	Gly	Ala	Met	Val	Thr
				295					300
Val	Asp	Arg	Asp	Tyr	Gly	Val	Leu	Asn	Lys
				305					310
Val	Phe	His	Asn	Ile	Ala	Asp	Thr	His	Val
				315					320
Ala	His	His	Leu	Phe	Ala	Thr	Val	Pro	His
				325					330
Tyr	His	Ala	Met	Glu	Ala	Thr	Lys	Ala	Ile
				335					340
Lys	Pro	Ile	Met	Gly	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Arg	Tyr
				345					350
Asp	Gly	Thr	Pro	Phe	Tyr	Lys	Ala	Leu	Trp
				355					360

Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Leu Phe Val Glu  
365 370

Pro Asp Glu Gly Ala Pro Thr Gln Gly Val  
375 380

Phe Trp Tyr Arg Asn Lys Tyr  
385

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 383 amino acids

(B) TYPE: amino acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS:

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Pro Val Pro  
5 10

Thr Ser Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Asp Thr  
15 20

Thr Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Lys Pro Pro  
25 30

Phe Ser Val Gly Asp Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile  
35 40

Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro  
45 50

Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Ser Asp Ile  
55 60

Ile Ile Ala Ser Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala  
65 70

Thr Asn Tyr Phe Ser Leu Leu Pro Gln Pro  
75 80

Leu Ser Tyr Leu Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp  
85 90

Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly Ile  
95 100

Trp Val Ile Ala His Glu Cys Gly His His  
105 110

Ala	Phe	Ser	Asp	Tyr	Gln	Trp	Leu	Asp	Asp	115	120
Thr	Val	Gly	Leu	Ile	Phe	His	Ser	Phe	Leu	125	130
Leu	Val	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Ser	Trp	Lys	Tyr	Ser	135	140
His	Arg	Arg	His	His	Ser	Asn	Thr	Gly	Ser	145	150
Leu	Glu	Arg	Asp	Glu	Val	Phe	Val	Pro	Lys	155	160
Gln	Lys	Ser	Ala	Ile	Lys	Trp	Tyr	Gly	Lys	165	170
Tyr	Leu	Asn	Asn	Pro	Leu	Gly	Arg	Ile	Met	175	180
Met	Leu	Thr	Val	Gln	Phe	Val	Leu	Gly	Trp	185	190
Pro	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Phe	Asn	Val	Ser	Gly	195	200
Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Gly	Phe	Ala	Cys	His	Phe	205	210
Phe	Pro	Asn	Ala	Pro	Ile	Tyr	Asn	Asp	Arg	215	220
Glu	Arg	Leu	Gln	Ile	Tyr	Leu	Ser	Asp	Ala	225	230
Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala	Val	Cys	Phe	Gly	Leu	Tyr	235	240
Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Ala	Gln	Gly	Met	Ala	Ser	245	250
Met	Ile	Cys	Leu	Tyr	Gly	Val	Pro	Leu	Leu	255	260
Ile	Val	Asn	Ala	Phe	Leu	Val	Leu	Ile	Thr	265	270
Tyr	Leu	Gln	His	Thr	His	Pro	Ser	Leu	Pro	275	280

His	Tyr	Asp	Ser	Ser	Glu	Trp	Asp	Trp	Leu		
				285						290	
Arg	Gly	Ala	Leu	Ala	Thr	Val	Asp	Arg	Asp		
				295						300	
Tyr	Gly	Ile	Leu	Asn	Lys	Val	Phe	His	Asn		
				305						310	
Ile	Thr	Asp	Thr	His	Val	Ala	His	His	Leu		
				315						320	
Phe	Ser	Thr	Met	Pro	His	Tyr	Asn	Ala	Met		
				325						330	
Glu	Ala	Thr	Lys	Ala	Ile	Lys	Pro	Ile	Leu		
				335						340	
Gly	Asp	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Phe	Asp	Gly	Thr	Pro		
				345						350	
Trp	Tyr	Val	Ala	Met	Tyr	Arg	Glu	Ala	Lys		
				355						360	
Glu	Cys	Ile	Tyr	Val	Glu	Pro	Asp	Arg	Glu		
				365						370	
Gly	Asp	Lys	Lys	Gly	Val	Tyr	Trp	Tyr	Asn		
				375						380	
Asn	Lys	Leu									

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS:
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

Met	Gly	Ala	Gly	Gly	Arg	Met	Gln	Val	Ser		
				5						10	
Pro	Pro	Ser	Lys	Lys	Ser	Glu	Thr	Asp	Asn		
				15						20	
Ile	Lys	Arg	Val	Pro	Cys	Glu	Thr	Pro	Pro		
				25						30	

Phe	Thr	Val	Gly	Glu	Leu	Lys	Lys	Ala	Ile	35	40
Pro	Pro	His	Cys	Phe	Lys	Arg	Ser	Ile	Pro	45	50
Arg	Ser	Phe	Ser	His	Leu	Ile	Trp	Asp	Ile	55	60
Ile	Ile	Ala	Ser	Cys	Phe	Tyr	Tyr	Val	Ala	65	70
Thr	Thr	Tyr	Phe	Pro	Leu	Leu	Pro	Asn	Pro	75	80
Leu	Ser	Tyr	Phe	Ala	Trp	Pro	Leu	Tyr	Trp	85	90
Ala	Cys	Gln	Gly	Cys	Val	Leu	Thr	Gly	Val	95	100
Trp	Val	Ile	Ala	His	Glu	Cys	Gly	His	Ala	105	110
Ala	Phe	Ser	Asp	Tyr	Gln	Trp	Leu	Asp	Asp	115	120
Thr	Val	Gly	Leu	Ile	Phe	His	Ser	Phe	Leu	125	130
Leu	Val	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Ser	Trp	Lys	Tyr	Ser	135	140
His	Arg	Arg	His	His	Ser	Asn	Thr	Gly	Ser	145	150
Leu	Glu	Arg	Asp	Glu	Val	Phe	Val	Pro	Arg	155	160
Arg	Ser	Gln	Thr	Ser	Ser	Gly	Thr	Ala	Ser	165	170
Thr	Ser	Thr	Thr	Phe	Gly	Arg	Thr	Val	Met	175	180
Leu	Thr	Val	Gln	Phe	Thr	Leu	Gly	Trp	Pro	185	190
Leu	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Phe	Asn	Val	Ser	Gly	Arg	195	200

Pro	Tyr	Asp	Gly	Gly	Phe	Ala	Cys	His	Phe	
				205					210	
His	Pro	Asn	Ala	Pro	Ile	Tyr	Asn	Asp	Arg	
				215					220	
Glu	Arg	Leu	Gln	Ile	Tyr	Ile	Ser	Asp	Ala	
				225					230	
Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala	Val	Cys	Tyr	Gly	Leu	Leu	
				235					240	
Pro	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Val	Gln	Gly	Val	Ala	Ser	
				245					250	
Met	Val	Cys	Phe	Leu	Arg	Val	Pro	Leu	Leu	
				255					260	
Ile	Val	Asn	Gly	Phe	Leu	Val	Leu	Ile	Thr	
				265					270	
Tyr	Leu	Gln	His	Thr	His	Pro	Ser	Leu	Pro	
				275					280	
His	Tyr	Asp	Ser	Ser	Glu	Trp	Asp	Trp	Leu	
				285					290	
Arg	Gly	Ala	Leu	Ala	Thr	Val	Asp	Arg	Asp	
				295					300	
Tyr	Gly	Ile	Leu	Asn	Gln	Gly	Phe	His	Asn	
				305					310	
Ile	Thr	Asp	Thr	His	Glu	Ala	His	His	Leu	
				315					320	
Phe	Ser	Thr	Met	Pro	His	Tyr	His	Ala	Met	
				325					330	
Glu	Ala	Thr	Lys	Ala	Ile	Lys	Pro	Ile	Leu	
				335					340	
Gly	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Phe	Asp	Gly	Thr	Pro	
				345					350	
Val	Val	Lys	Ala	Met	Trp	Arg	Glu	Ala	Lys	
				355					360	
Glu	Cys	Ile	Tyr	Val	Glu	Pro	Asp	Arg	Gln	
				365					370	

Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn  
375 380

Asn Lys Leu Xaa

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEO ID NO:8

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 309 amino acids  
(B) TYPE: amino acid  
(C) STRANDEDNESS:  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

Ser Leu Leu Thr Ser Phe Ser Tyr Val Val  
5 10

Tyr Asp Leu Ser Phe Ala Phe Ile Phe Tyr  
15 20

Ile Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe His Leu Leu Pro  
25 30

Gln Pro Phe Ser Leu Ile Ala Trp Pro Ile  
35 40

Tyr Trp Val Leu Gln Gly Cys Leu Leu Thr  
45 50

Arg Val Cys Gly His His Ala Phe Ser Lys  
55 60

Tyr Gln Trp Val Asp Asp Val Val Gly Leu  
65 70

Thr Leu His Ser Thr Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr  
75 80

Phe Ser Trp Lys Ile Ser His Arg Arg His  
85 90

His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Asp Arg Asp  
95 100

Glu Arg Val Lys Val Ala Trp Phe Ser Lys  
105 110

Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu Gly Arg Ala Val  
115 120



Ser	Leu	Leu	Val	Thr	Leu	Thr	Ile	Gly	Trp	125	130
Pro	Met	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Phe	Asn	Val	Ser	Gly	135	140
Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Ser	Phe	Ala	Ser	His	Tyr	145	150
His	Pro	Tyr	Arg	Val	Arg	Leu	Leu	Ile	Tyr	155	160
Val	Ser	Asp	Val	Ala	Leu	Phe	Ser	Val	Thr	165	170
Tyr	Ser	Leu	Tyr	Arg	Val	Ala	Thr	Leu	Lys	175	180
Gly	Leu	Val	Trp	Leu	Leu	Cys	Val	Tyr	Gly	185	190
Val	Pro	Leu	Leu	Ile	Val	Asn	Gly	Phe	Leu	195	200
Val	Thr	Ile	Thr	Tyr	Leu	Arg	Val	His	Tyr	205	210
Asp	Ser	Ser	Glu	Trp	Asp	Trp	Leu	Lys	Gly	215	220
Ala	Leu	Ala	Thr	Met	Asp	Arg	Asp	Tyr	Gly	225	230
Ile	Leu	Asn	Lys	Val	Phe	His	His	Ile	Thr	235	240
Asp	Thr	His	Val	Ala	His	His	Leu	Phe	Ser	245	250
Thr	Met	Pro	His	Tyr	His	Leu	Arg	Val	Lys	255	260
Pro	Ile	Leu	Gly	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Gln	Phe	Asp	265	270
Asp	Thr	Pro	Phe	Tyr	Lys	Ala	Leu	Trp	Arg	275	280
Glu	Ala	Arg	Glu	Cys	Leu	Tyr	Val	Glu	Pro	285	290

Asp Glu Gly Thr Ser Glu Lys Gly Val Tyr  
295 300

Trp Tyr Arg Asn Lys Tyr Leu Arg Val  
305

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 302 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS:
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

Phe Ser Tyr Val Val Tyr Asp Leu Thr Ile  
5 10

Ala Phe Cys Leu Tyr Tyr Val Ala Thr His  
15 20

Tyr Phe His Leu Leu Pro Gly Pro Leu Ser  
25 30

Phe Arg Gly Met Ala Ile Tyr Trp Ala Val  
35 40

Gln Gly Cys Ile Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val  
45 50

Val Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Leu Leu Asp  
55 60

Asp Ile Val Gly Leu Ile Leu His Ser Ala  
65 70

Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr  
75 80

Ser His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Thr Gly  
85 90

Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro  
95 100

Lys Val Ser Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Pro  
105 110

Gly Arg Val Leu Thr Leu Ala Val Thr Leu  
115 120

Thr	Leu	Gly	Trp	Pro	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Leu	125	130
Asn	Val	Ser	Gly	Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Arg	Phe	135	140
Ala	Cys	His	Tyr	Asp	Pro	Tyr	Gly	Pro	Ile	145	150
Tyr	Ser	Val	Ile	Ser	Asp	Ala	Gly	Val	Leu	155	160
Ala	Val	Val	Tyr	Gly	Leu	Phe	Arg	Leu	Ala	165	170
Met	Ala	Lys	Gly	Leu	Ala	Trp	Val	Val	Cys	175	180
Val	Tyr	Gly	Val	Pro	Leu	Leu	Val	Val	Asn	185	190
Gly	Phe	Leu	Val	Leu	Ile	Thr	Phe	Leu	Gln	195	200
His	Thr	His	Val	Ser	Glu	Trp	Asp	Trp	Leu	205	210
Arg	Gly	Ala	Leu	Ala	Thr	Val	Asp	Arg	Asp	215	220
Tyr	Gly	Ile	Leu	Asn	Lys	Val	Phe	His	Asn	225	230
Ile	Thr	Asp	Thr	His	Val	Ala	His	His	Leu	235	240
Phe	Ser	Thr	Met	Pro	His	Tyr	His	Ala	Met	245	250
Glu	Ala	Thr	Val	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Arg	Phe	Asp	255	260
Glu	Thr	Pro	Phe	Val	Lys	Ala	Met	Trp	Arg	265	270
Glu	Ala	Arg	Glu	Cys	Ile	Tyr	Val	Glu	Pro	275	280
Asp	Gln	Ser	Thr	Glu	Ser	Lys	Gly	Val	Phe	285	290

Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu Ala Met Glu Ala  
295 300

Thr Val

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 372 amino acids  
(B) TYPE: amino acid  
(C) STRANDEDNESS:  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Thr Glu Lys  
5 10

Glu Arg Glu Lys Gln Glu Gln Leu Ala Arg  
15 20

Ala Thr Gly Gly Ala Ala Met Gln Arg Ser  
25 30

Pro Val Glu Lys Pro Pro Phe Thr Leu Gly  
35 40

Gln Ile Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys  
45 50

Phe Glu Arg Ser Val Leu Lys Ser Phe Ser  
55 60

Tyr Val Val His Asp Leu Val Ile Ala Ala  
65 70

Ala Leu Leu Tyr Phe Ala Leu Ala Ile Ile  
75 80

Pro Ala Leu Pro Ser Pro Leu Arg Tyr Ala  
85 90

Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ile Ala Gln Gly  
95 100

Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Ser Leu Leu Asp Asp  
105 110

Val Val Gly Leu Val Leu His Ser Ser Leu  
115 120

Met	Val	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Ser	Trp	Lys	Tyr	Ser	125	130
His	Arg	Arg	His	His	Ser	Asn	Thr	Gly	Ser	135	140
Leu	Glu	Arg	Asp	Glu	Val	Phe	Val	Pro	Lys	145	150
Lys	Lys	Glu	Ala	Leu	Pro	Trp	Tyr	Thr	Pro	155	160
Tyr	Val	Tyr	Asn	Asn	Pro	Val	Gly	Arg	Val	165	170
Val	His	Ile	Val	Val	Gln	Leu	Thr	Leu	Gly	175	180
Trp	Pro	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Thr	Asn	Ala	Ser	185	190
Gly	Arg	Pro	Tyr	Pro	Arg	Phe	Ala	Cys	His	195	200
Phe	Asp	Pro	Tyr	Gly	Pro	Ile	Tyr	Asn	Asp	205	210
Arg	Glu	Arg	Ala	Gln	Ile	Phe	Val	Ser	Asp	215	220
Ala	Gly	Val	Val	Ala	Val	Ala	Phe	Gly	Leu	225	230
Tyr	Lys	Leu	Ala	Ala	Ala	Phe	Gly	Val	Trp	235	240
Trp	Val	Val	Arg	Val	Tyr	Ala	Val	Pro	Leu	245	250
Leu	Ile	Val	Asn	Ala	Trp	Leu	Val	Leu	Ile	255	260
Thr	Tyr	Leu	Gln	His	Thr	His	Pro	Ser	Leu	265	270
Pro	His	Tyr	Asp	Ser	Ser	Glu	Trp	Asp	Trp	275	280
Leu	Arg	Gly	Ala	Leu	Ala	Thr	Met	Asp	Arg	285	290

Asp	Tyr	Gly	Ile	Leu	Asn	Arg	Val	Phe	His
				295					300
Asn	Ile	Thr	Asp	Thr	His	Val	Ala	His	His
				305					310
Leu	Phe	Ser	Thr	Met	Pro	His	Tyr	His	Ala
				315					320
Met	Glu	Ala	Thr	Lys	Ala	Ile	Arg	Pro	Ile
				325					330
Leu	Gly	Asp	Tyr	Tyr	His	Phe	Asp	Pro	Thr
				335					340
Pro	Val	Ala	Lys	Ala	Thr	Trp	Arg	Glu	Ala
				345					350
Gly	Glu	Cys	Ile	Tyr	Val	Glu	Pro	Glu	Asp
				355					360
Arg	Lys	Gly	Val	Phe	Trp	Tyr	Asn	Lys	Lys
				365					370
Phe	Xaa								

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 224 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS:
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

Trp	Val	Met	Ala	His	Asp	Cys	Gly	His	His
				5					10
Ala	Phe	Ser	Asp	Tyr	Gln	Leu	Leu	Asp	Asp
				15					20
Val	Val	Gly	Leu	Ile	Leu	His	Ser	Cys	Leu
				25					30
Leu	Val	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Ser	Trp	Lys	His	Ser
				35					40
His	Arg	Arg	His	His	Ser	Asn	Thr	Gly	Ser
				45					50

Leu	Glu	Arg	Asp	Glu	Val	Phe	Val	Pro	Lys	55	60
Lys	Lys	Ser	Ser	Ile	Arg	Trp	Tyr	Ser	Lys	65	70
Tyr	Leu	Asn	Asn	Pro	Pro	Gly	Arg	Ile	Met	75	80
Thr	Ile	Ala	Val	Thr	Leu	Ser	Leu	Gly	Trp	85	90
Pro	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Phe	Asn	Val	Ser	Gly	95	100
Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Arg	Phe	Ala	Cys	His	Tyr	105	110
Asp	Pro	Tyr	Gly	Pro	Ile	Tyr	Asn	Asp	Arg	115	120
Glu	Arg	Ile	Glu	Ile	Phe	Ile	Ser	Asp	Ala	125	130
Gly	Val	Leu	Ala	Val	Thr	Phe	Gly	Leu	Tyr	135	140
Gln	Leu	Ala	Ile	Ala	Lys	Gly	Leu	Ala	Trp	145	150
Val	Val	Cys	Val	Tyr	Gly	Val	Pro	Leu	Leu	155	160
Val	Val	Asn	Ser	Phe	Leu	Val	Leu	Ile	Thr	165	170
Phe	Leu	Gln	His	Thr	His	Pro	Ala	Leu	Pro	175	180
His	Tyr	Asp	Ser	Ser	Glu	Trp	Asp	Trp	Leu	185	190
Arg	Gly	Ala	Leu	Ala	Thr	Val	Asp	Arg	Asp	195	200
Tyr	Gly	Ile	Leu	Asn	Lys	Val	Phe	His	Asn	205	210
Ile	Thr	Asp	Thr	Gln	Val	Ala	His	His	Leu	215	220

Phe Thr Met Pro

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 20 nucleotides  
(B) TYPE: nucleotide  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

GCTCTTTTGT GCGCTCATTC 20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 20 nucleotides  
(B) TYPE: nucleotide  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

CGGTACCAGA AAACGCCTTG 20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 20 nucleotides  
(B) TYPE: nucleotide  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

TAYWSNCAYM GNMGNCA YCA 20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 21 nucleotides  
(B) TYPE: nucleotide  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

RTGRTGNGCN ACRTGNGTRT C 21



WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of altering an amount of an unsaturated fatty acid in a seed of a plant comprising: decreasing a fatty acid desaturase activity in the seed by genetic manipulation of at least one of fatty acid desaturase or fatty acid hydroxylase.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein an endogenous gene for said fatty acid hydroxylase is mutated and thereby decreases fatty acid hydroxylase activity in the seed.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said plant is transformed with a nucleic acid containing a sequence which encodes a fatty acid hydroxylase or derivative thereof.

4. The method of Claim 3, wherein said derivative is a dominant negative mutant which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

5. The method of Claim 3, wherein said derivative is a mutant fatty acid hydroxylase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein an endogenous gene for said fatty acid desaturase is mutated and thereby decreases fatty acid desaturase activity in the seed.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said plant is transformed with a nucleic acid containing a sequence which encodes a fatty acid desaturase or derivative thereof.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein said derivative is a dominant negative mutant which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

9. The method of Claim 7, wherein said derivative is a mutant fatty acid desaturase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

11. A method of altering an amount of a unsaturated fatty acid comprising:

(a) transforming a plant cell with a nucleic acid containing a sequence which encodes a fatty acid hydroxylase or a dominant negative mutant of fatty acid hydroxylase or a dominant negative mutant of fatty acid desaturase,

(b) growing a seed-bearing plant from the transformed plant cell of step (a), and

(c) identifying a seed from the plant of step (b) with the altered amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of fatty acid hydroxylase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated.

13. The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of fatty acid hydroxylase which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

14. The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of fatty acid desaturase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated.

15. The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of fatty acid desaturase which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

16. The method of Claim 11, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

17. A recombinant nucleic acid suitable for use in Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence encoding a fatty acid hydroxylase with an

amino acid identity of 60% or greater to SEQ ID NO:4.

18. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein the amino acid identity is 90% or greater to SEQ ID NO:4.

19. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein the amino acid identity is 100% of SEQ ID NO:4.

20. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence having a nucleotide identity of 90% or greater to SEQ ID NO:1, 2 or 3.

21. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein said nucleic acid contains SEQ ID NO:1, 2 or 3.

22. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein said sequence is obtainable from a plant species producing a hydroxylated fatty acid.

23. A recombinant nucleic acid suitable for use in Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence encoding at least one of fatty acid desaturase or fatty acid hydroxylase.

24. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 23, wherein said sequence is obtainable from *Ricinus communis* (L.) (castor).

25. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 23, wherein said sequence is obtainable from *Lesquerella fendleri*.

26. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 23, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence encoding at least one of fatty acid desaturase or fatty acid hydroxylase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated.

27. The method of Claim 1 further comprising: processing the seed containing the altered amount of the unsaturated fatty acid to obtain oil and/or seed meal.

28. Oil obtained by the method of Claim 27.

29. Seed meal obtained by the method of Claim 27.

30. Plant obtained by the method of Claim 1.

31. The method of Claim 11 further comprising: processing the seed containing the altered amount of the unsaturated fatty acid to obtain oil and/or seed meal.

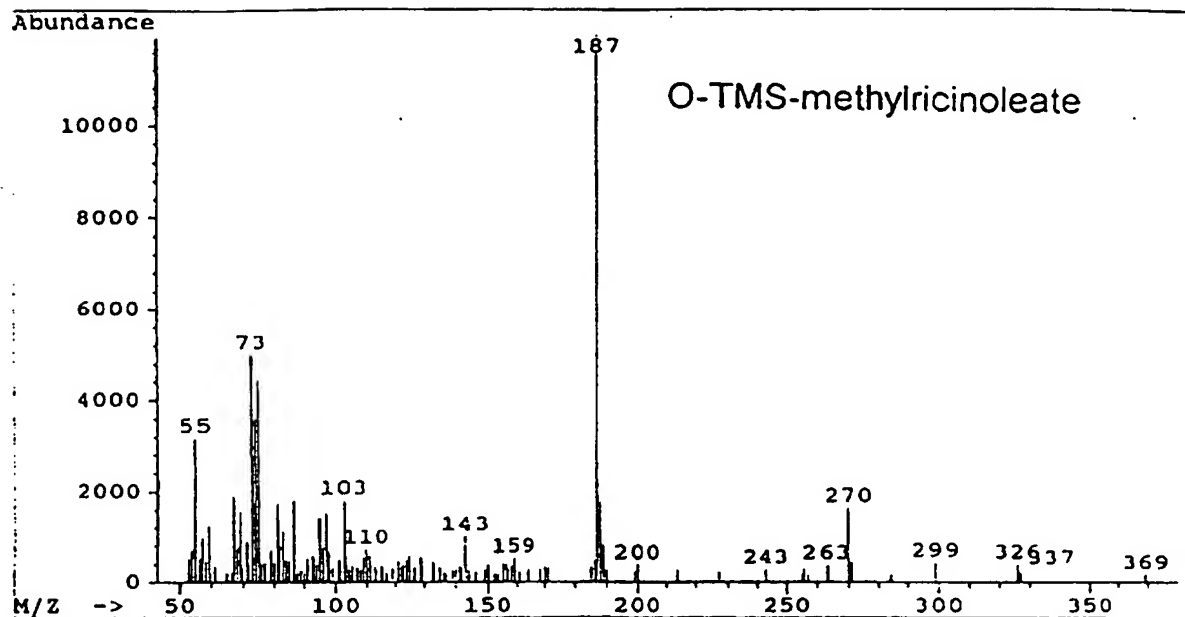
32. Oil obtained by the method of Claim 31.

33. Seed meal obtained by the method of Claim 31.

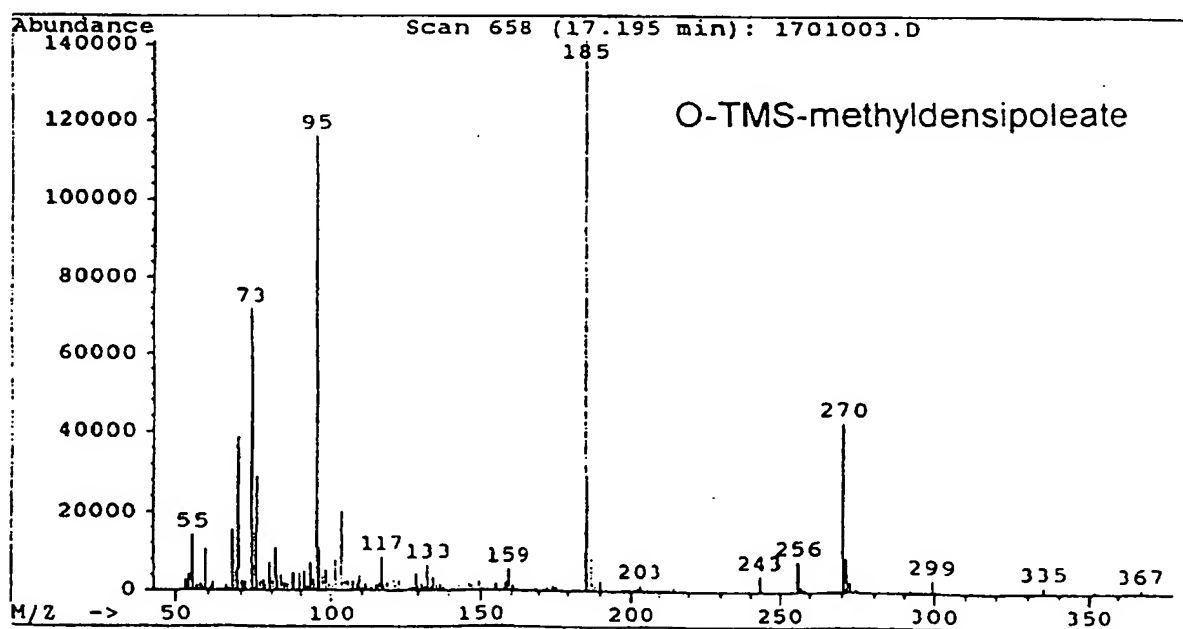
34. Plant obtained by the method of Claim 11.

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Figure 1A



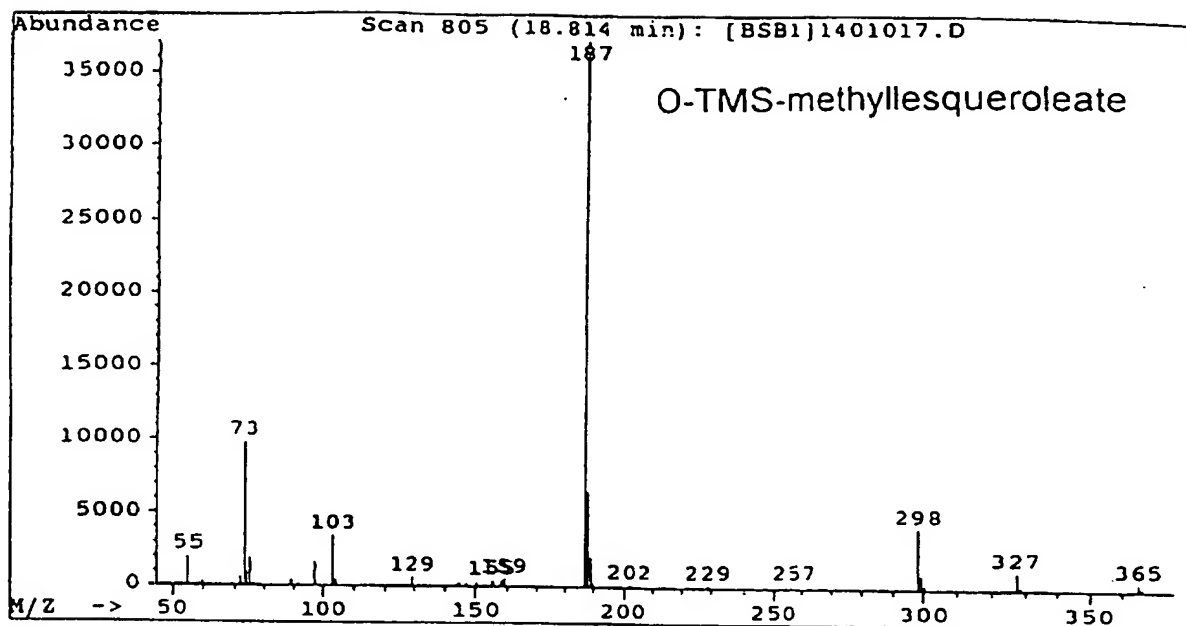
1B



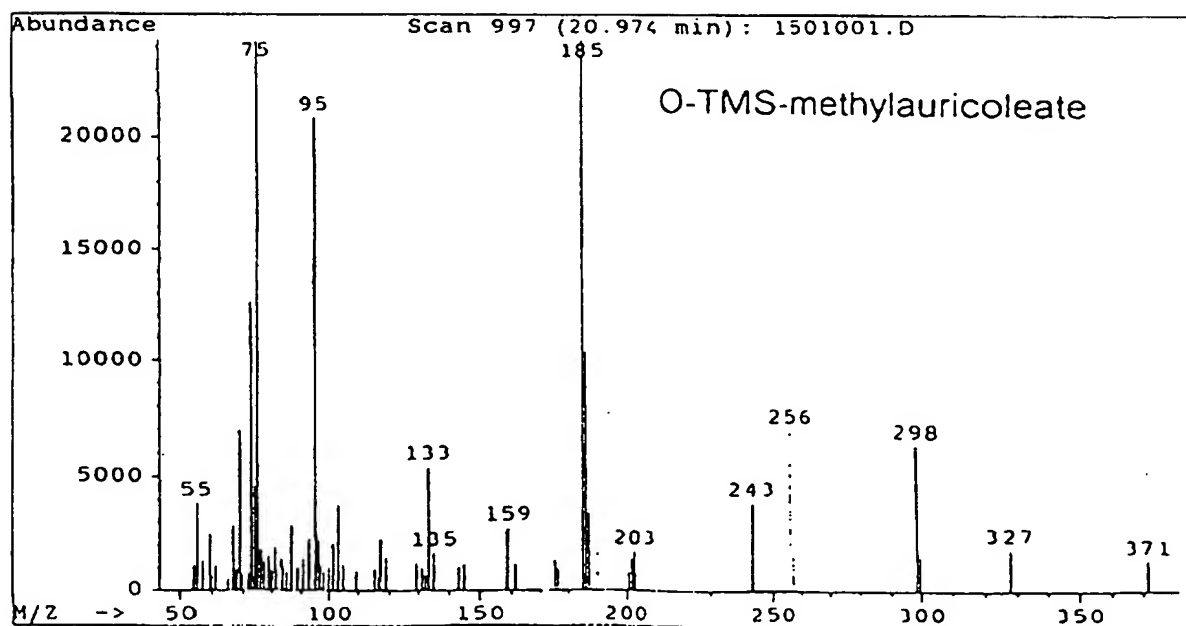
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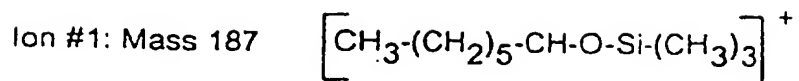
1C



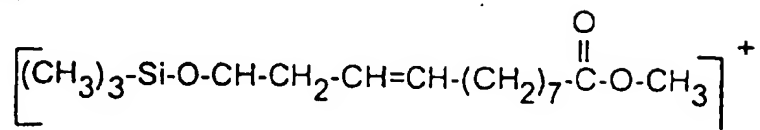
1D



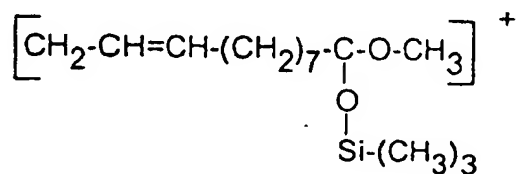
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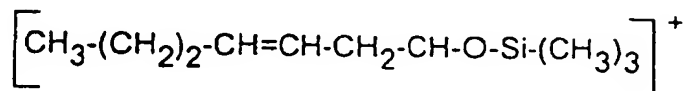
Ion #2: Mass 299



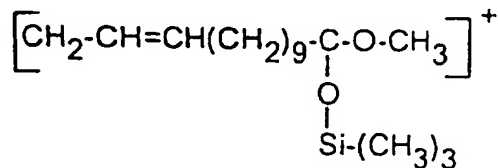
Ion #3: Mass 270 (characteristic rearrangement ion)



Ion #4: Mass 185 (desaturated analog of Ion #1)



Ion #5: Mass 298 (elongated analog of Ion #3)



Ion #6: Mass 327 (elongated analog of ion

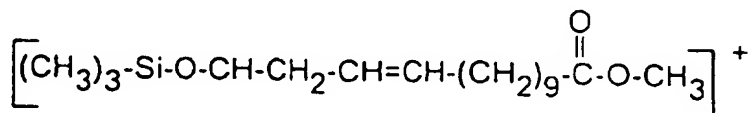
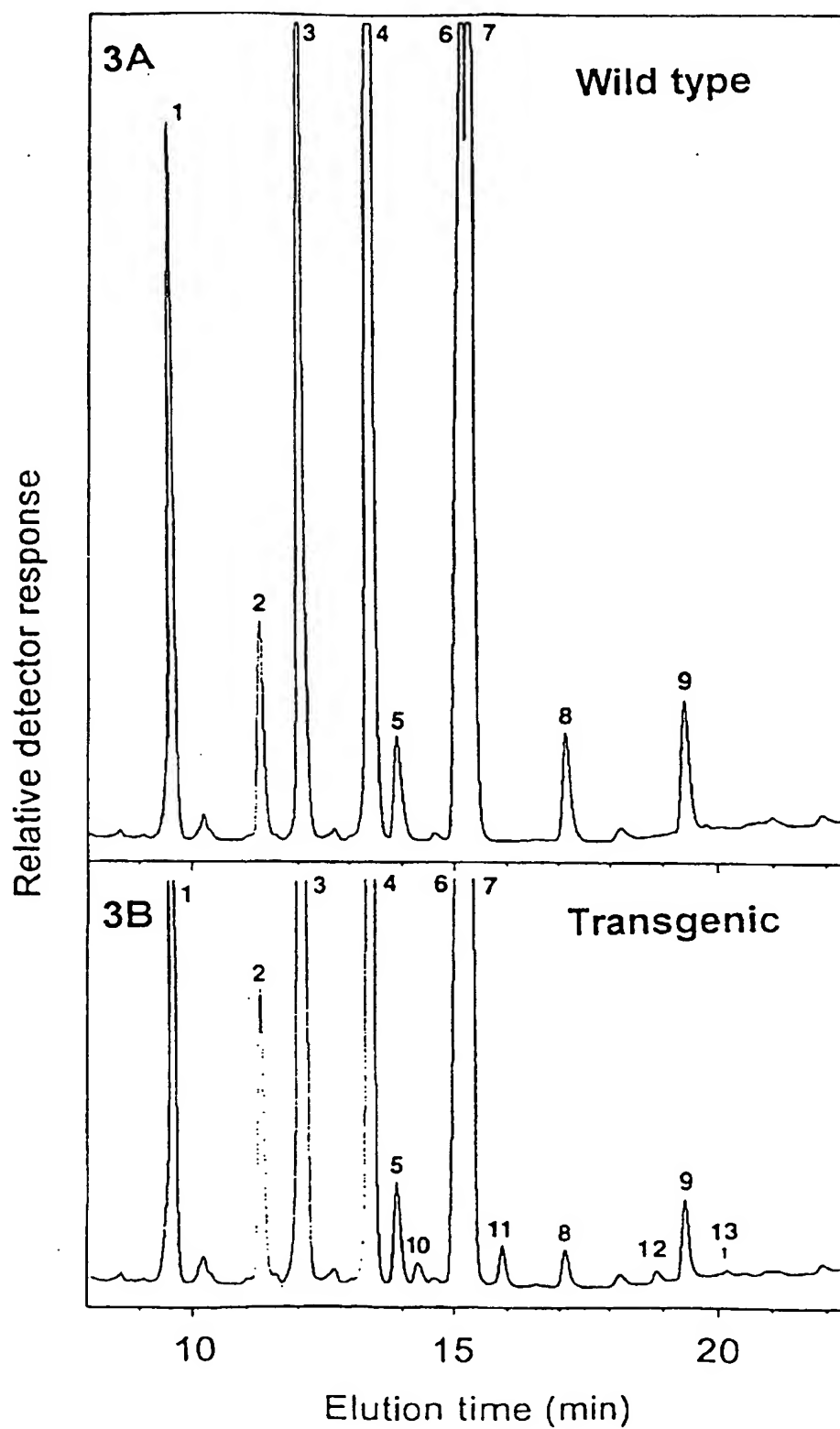


Figure 2



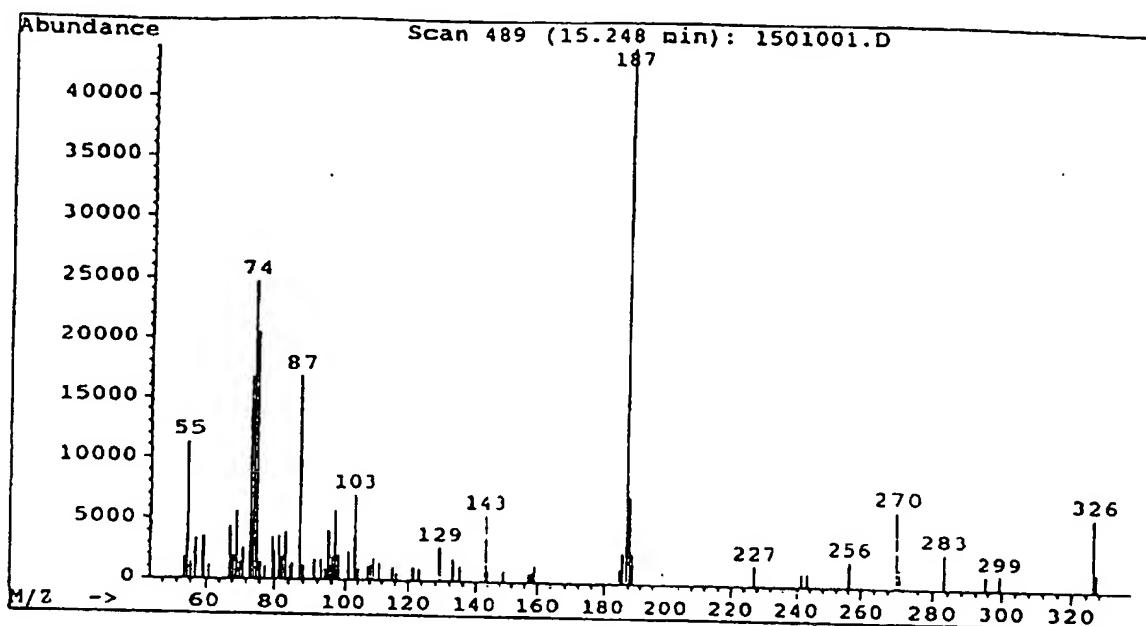
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Figure 3

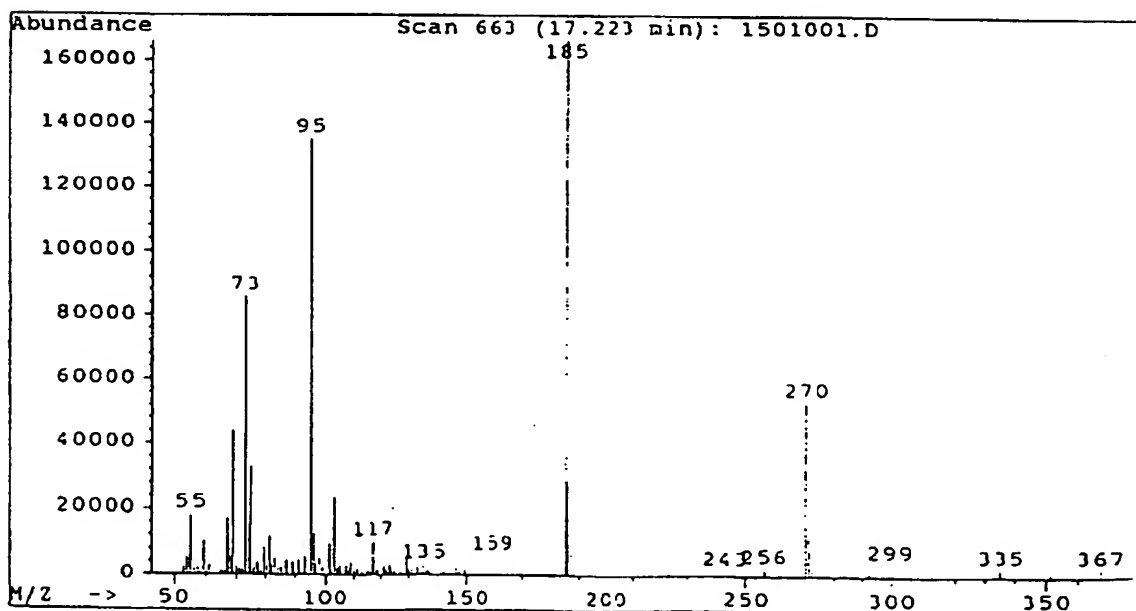


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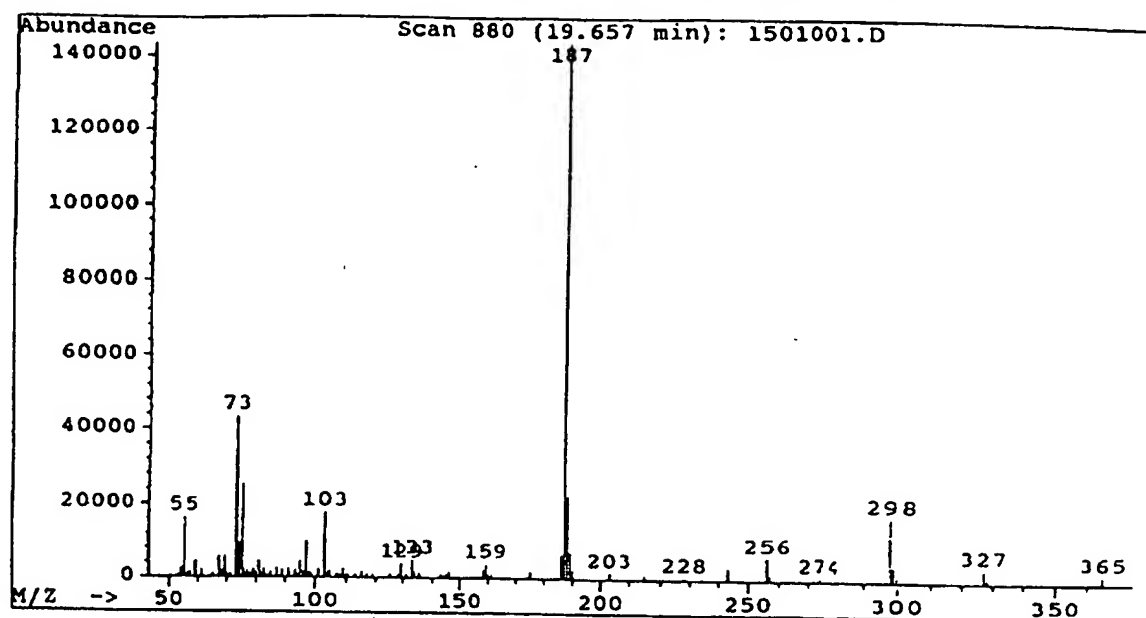
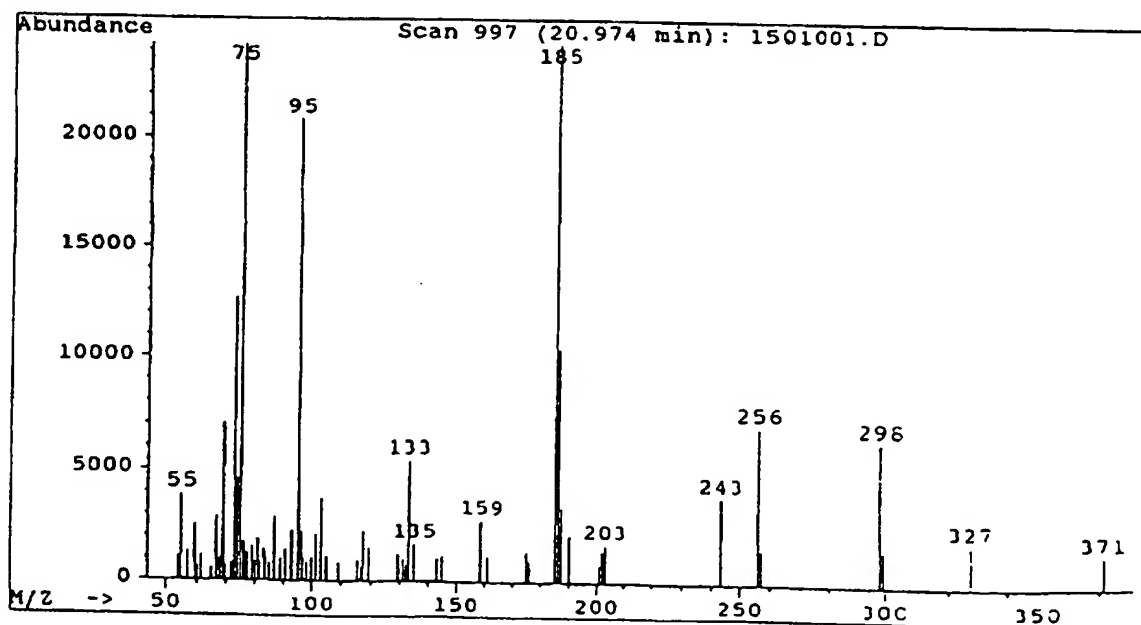
Figure 4A Mass spectrum of peak 10 from figure 3B



4B Mass spectrum of peak 11 from figure 3B



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**4C Mass spectrum of peak 12 from figure 3B****4D Mass spectrum of peak 13 from figure 3B**

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10	20	30	40	50	60
TATTGSCACC	GGCGGCACCA	TTECAACAAT	GGATCCCTAG	AAAAAGATGA	AGTCTTTGTC
70	80	90	100	110	120
CCACCTAAGA	AAGCTGCAGT	CANATGGTAT	GTCAAATACC	TCAACAACCC	TCTTGGACGC
130	140	150	160	170	180
ATTCTGGTGT	TAACAGTTCA	GTTTATCCTC	GGGTGGCCTT	TGTATCTAGC	CTTTAATGTA
190	200	210	220	230	240
TCAGGTAGAC	CTTATGATGG	TTTCGCTTCA	CATTTCTTCC	CTCATGCACC	TATCTTTAAG
250	260	270	280	290	300
GACCGTGAAC	GTCTCCAGAT	ATACATCTCA	GATGCTGGTA	TTCTAGCTGT	CTGTTATGGT
310	320	330	340	350	360
CTTTACCGTT	ACGCTGCTTC	ACAAGGATTG	ACTGCTATGA	TCTGCGTCTA	CGGAGTACCG
370	380	390	400	410	420
CTTTTGATAG	TGAACTTTTT	CCTTGTCCTG	GTCACCTTCT	TGCAGCACAC	TCATCCTTCA
430	440	450	460	470	480
TTACCTCACT	ATGATTCAAC	CGAGTGGGAA	TGGATTAGAG	GAGCTTTGGT	TACGGTAGAC
490	500	510	520	530	540
AGAGACTATG	GAATCTTGAA	CAAGGTGTTT	CACAACATAA	CAGACACCCA	CGTAGCACAC
550					
CAC					

Figure 5

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10	20	30	40	50	60
TATAGGCACC	GGAGGCACCA	TTCCAACACA	GGATCCCTCG	AAAGAGATGA	AGTATTTGTC
70	80	90	100	110	120
CCAAAGCAGA	AATCCGCAAT	CAAGTGCTAC	GGCGAATACC	TCAACAACCC	TCCTGGTCGC
130	140	150	160	170	180
ATCATGATGT	TAAGTGTCCT	GTTCGTCCTC	GGATGGCCCT	TGTACTTAGC	CTTCAACGTT
190	200	210	220	230	240
TCTGGCAGAC	CCTACAATGG	TTTCGCTTCC	CATTTCTTCC	CCAATGCTCC	TATCTACAAC
250	260	270	280	290	300
GACCGTGAAC	GCCTCCAGAT	TTACATCTCT	GATGCTGGTA	TTCTAGCCGT	CTGTTATGGT
310	320	330	340	350	360
CTTTACCGTT	ACGCTGTTGC	ACAAGGACTA	GCCTCAATGA	TCTGTCTAAA	CGGAGTTCCG
370	380	390	400	410	420
CTTCTGATAG	TTAACTTTTT	CCTCGTCTTG	ATCACTTACT	TACAACACAC	TCACCCTGCG
430	440	450	460	470	480
TTGCCTCACT	ATGATTCATC	AGAGTGGGAT	TGGCTTAGAG	GAGCTTTAGC	TACTGTAGAC
490	500	510	520	530	540
AGAGACTATG	GAATCTTGAA	CAAGGTGTTT	CATAACATCA	CAGACACCCA	CGTCGCACAC
550					

CACT

Figure 6

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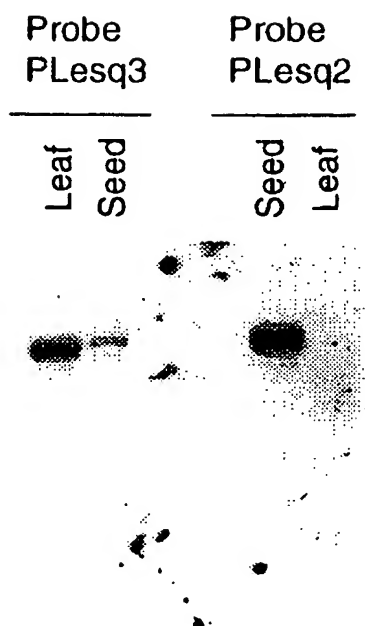


FIG.7

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AT GAA GCT TTA TAA GAA GTT AGT TTT CTC TGG TGA CAG AGA AAT TNT	47
GTC AAT TGG TAG TGA CAG TGG AAG CAA CAG GAA CAA CAA GGA TGG TTG	95
GTG NTG ATG CTG ATG TGG TGA TGT GTT ATT CAT CAA ATA CTA AAT ACT	143
ACA TTA CTT GTT GCT GCC TAC TTC TCC TAT TTC CTC CGC CAC CCA TTT	191
TGG ACC CAC GAN CCT TCC ATT TAA ACC CTC TCT CGT GCT ATT CAC CAG	239
AAG AGA AGC CAA GAG AGA GAG AGA GAG AAT GTT CTG AGG ATC ATT GTC	287
TTC TTC ATC GTT ATT AAC GTA AGT TTT TTT TGA CCA CTC ATA TCT AAA	335
ATC TAG TAC ATG CAA TAG ATT AAT GAC TGT TCC TTC TTT TGA TAT TTT	383
CAG CTT CTT GAA TTC AAG Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Ile Met Val Thr	10
ATG GGT GCT GGT GGA AGA ATA ATG GTT ACC	431
Pro Ser Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Glu Ala Leu Lys Arg Gly Pro Cys	26
CCC TCT TCC AAG AAA TCA GAA ACT GAA GCC CTA AAA CGT GGA CCA TGT	479
Glu Lys Pro Pro Phe Thr Val Lys Asp Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Gln	42
GAG AAA CCA CCA TTC ACT GTT AAA GAT CTG AAG AAA GCA ATC CCA CAG	527
His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Leu Thr	58
CAT TGT TTC AAG CGC TCT ATC CCT CGT TCT TTC TCC TAC CTT CTC ACA	575
Asp Ile Thr Leu Val Ser Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala Thr Asn Tyr Phe	74
GAT ATC ACT TTA GTT TCT TGC TTC TAC TAC GTT GCC ACA AAT TAC TTC	623
Ser Leu Leu Pro Gln Pro Leu Ser Thr Tyr Leu Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr	90
TCT CTT CTT CCT CAG CCT CTC TCT ACT TAC CTA GCT TGG CCT CTC TAT	671
Trp Val Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly Ile Trp Val Ile Gly His	106
TGG GTA TGT CAA GGC TGT GTC TTA ACC GGT ATC TGG GTC ATT GGC CAT	719
Glu Cys Gly His His Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Val Asp Asp Thr	122
GAA TGT GGT CAC CAT GCA TTC AGT GAC TAT CAA TGG GTA GAT GAC ACT	767
Val Gly Phe Ile Phe His Ser Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp	138
GTT GGT TTT ATC TTC CAT TCC TTC CTT CTC GTC CCT TAC TTC TCC TGG	815
Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Asn Gly Ser Leu Glu Lys	154
AAA TAC AGT CAT CGT CGT CAC CAT TCC AAC AAT GGA TCT CTC GAG AAA	863
Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Pro Lys Lys Ala Ala Val Lys Trp Tyr Val	170
GAT GAA GTC TTT GTC CCA CCG AAG AAA GCT GCA GTC AAA TGG TAT GTT	911
Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu Gly Arg Ile Leu Val Leu Thr Val Gln	186
AAA TAC CTC AAC AAC CCT CTT GGA CGC ATT CTG GTG TTA ACA GTT CAG	959

Figure 8A  
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Phe Ile Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg	202
TTT ATC CTC GGG TGG CCT TTG TAT CTA GCC TTT AAT GTA TCA GGT AGA	1007
Pro Tyr Asp Gly Phe Ala Ser His Phe Phe Pro His Ala Pro Ile Phe	218
CCT TAT GAT GGT TTC GCT TCA CAT TTC TTC CCT CAT GCA CCT ATC TTT	1055
Lys Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu	234
AAA GAC CGA GAA CGC CTC CAG ATA TAC ATC TCA GAT GCT GGT ATT CTA	1103
Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ser Gln Gly Leu Thr	250
GCT GTC TGT TAT GGT CTT TAC CGT TAC GCT GCT TCA CAA GGA TTG ACT	1151
Ala Met Ile Cys Val Tyr Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Phe Phe	266
GCT ATG ATC TGC GTC TAT GGA GTA CCG CTT TTG ATA GTG AAC TTT TTC	1199
Leu Val Leu Val Thr Phe Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His	282
CTT GTC TTG GTA ACT TTC TTG CAG CAC ACT CAT CCT TCG TTA CCT CAT	1247
Tyr Asp Ser Thr Glu Trp Glu Trp Ile Arg Gly Ala Leu Val Thr Val	298
TAT GAT TCA ACC GAG TGG GAA TGG ATT AGA GGA GCT TTG GTT ACG GTA	1295
Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp	314
GAC AGA GAC TAT GGA ATA TTG AAC AAG GTG TTC CAT AAC ATA ACA GAC	1343
Thr His Val Ala His His Leu Phe Ala Thr Ile Pro His Tyr Asn Ala	330
ACA CAT GTG GCT CAT CAT CTC TTT GCA ACT ATA CCG CAT TAT AAC GCA	1391
Met Glu Ala Thr Glu Ala Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Asp Tyr Tyr His	346
ATG GAA GCT ACA GAG GCG ATA AAG CCA ATA CTT GGT GAT TAC TAC CAC	1439
Phe Asp Gly Thr Pro Trp Tyr Val Ala Met Tyr Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu	362
TTC GAT GGA ACA CCG TGG TAT GTG GCC ATG TAT AGG GAA GCA AAG GAG	1487
Cys Leu Tyr Val Glu Pro Asp Thr Glu Arg Gly Lys Lys Gly Val Tyr	378
TGT CTC TAT GTA GAA CCG GAT ACG GAA CGT GGG AAG AAA GGT GTC TAC	1535
Tyr Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu	384
TAT TAC AAC AAT AAG TTA TGA GGC TGA TAG GGC GAG AGA AGT GCA ATT	1583
ATC AAT CTT CAT TTC CAT GTT TTA GGT GTC TTG TTT AAG AAG CTA TGC	1631
TTT GTT TCA ATA ATC TCA GAG TCC ATN TAG TTG TGT TCT GGT GCA TTT	1679
TGC CTA GTT ATG TGG TGT CGG AAG TTA GTG TTC AAA CTG CTT CCT GCT	1727
GTG CTG CCC AGT GAA GAA CAA GTT TAC GTG TTT AAA ATA CTC GGA ACG	1775
AAT TGA CCA CAA NAT ATC CAA AAC CGG CTA TCC GAA TTC CAT ATC CGA	1823
AAA CCG GAT ATC CAA ATT TCC AGA GTA CTT AG	1855

Figure 8B

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		10	20	30	40	50	
LFFAH12	1	MGAGGRIM--	--VTPSSKKS	--ETEALKRG	PCEKPPFTVK	DLKKAIPQHC	50
FAH12	1	MGGGGRMSTV	ITSNNSEKKG	--GSSHLKRA	PHTKPPFTLG	DLKRAIPPHC	50
ATFAD2	1	MGAGGRMP--	--VPTSSKKS	--ETDITKRV	PCEKPPFSVG	DLKKAIPPHC	50
BNFAD2	1	MGAGGRMQ--	--VSPPSKKS	--ETDNIKRV	PCETPPFTVG	ELKKAIPPHC	50
GMFAD2-1	1	MGLA-KETTM	GGRGRVAKVE	VOGKKPLSRV	PNTKPPFTVG	OLKKAIPPHC	50
GMFAD2-2	1	MGAGGR----	TDVPPANRKS	--EVDPLKRV	PFEKPOFSLS	OIKKAIPPHC	50
ZMFAD2	1	MGAGGRMTEK	EREKOEQLAR	ATGGAAMQRS	PVEKPPFTLG	OIKKAIPPHC	50
RCFAD2	1	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	50
		60	70	80	90	100	
LFFAH12	51	FKRSIPRSFS	YLLTOITLVS	CFYYVATNYF	SLLPOPLSTY	LAWPLYWVCO	100
FAH12	51	FERSFVRSFS	YVAYDVCLSF	LFYSIATNFF	PYISSPLS-Y	VAWLWVWLFQ	100
ATFAD2	51	FKRSIPRSFS	YLISDIIIAS	CFYYVATNYF	SLLPOPLS-Y	LAWPLYWACO	100
BNFAD2	51	FKRSIPRSFS	HLIWDIIIAS	CFYYVATTYF	PLLPNPLS-Y	FAWPLYWACO	100
GMFAD2-1	51	FQRSLLTSFS	YVVYDLSFAF	IFY-IATTYF	HLLPQPS-L	IAWPIYWVLQ	100
GMFAD2-2	51	FQRSVLRSFS	YVVYDLTIAF	CLYYVATHYF	HLLPGPLS-F	RGMAIYWAVQ	100
ZMFAD2	51	FERSVLKSFS	YVVHDLVIAA	ALLYFALAI	PALPSPLR-Y	AAWPLYWIAQ	100
RCFAD2	51	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	100
		110	120	130	140	150	
LFFAH12	101	GCVLTGIWVI	GHECGHHAFS	DYQWVDDTVG	FIFHSFLLVP	YFSWKYSHRR	150
FAH12	101	GCILTGLWVI	GHECGHHAFS	EYQLADDIVG	LIVHSALLVP	YFSWKYSHRR	150
ATFAD2	101	GCVLTGIWVI	AHECGHHAFS	DYQWLDDTVG	LIFHSFLLVP	YFSWKYSHRR	150
BNFAD2	101	GCVLTGVWVI	AHECGHHAFS	DYQWLDDTVG	LIFHSFLLVP	YFSWKYSHRR	150
GMFAD2-1	101	GCLLTGVWVI	AHECGHHAFS	KYQWVDDVVG	LTLHSTLLVP	YFSWKYSHRR	150
GMFAD2-2	101	GCILTGVWVI	AHECGHHAFS	DYQLDDDIVG	LILHSALLVP	YFSWKYSHRR	150
ZMFAD2	101	G-----	-----AFS	DYSLLDDVVG	LVLHSSLMVP	YFSWKYSHRR	150
RCFAD2	101	-----WVM	AHDCGHHAFS	DYQLDDVVG	LILHSCLLVP	YFSWKHSHRR	150
		160	170	180	190	200	
LFFAH12	151	HHSNNGSLEK	DEVFVPPKKA	AVKWYVKYL-	NNPLGRILVL	TVOFILGWPL	200
FAH12	151	HHSNIGSLER	DEVFVPKSKS	KISWYSKYS-	NNPPGRVLT	AATLLLWGPL	200
ATFAD2	151	HHSNTGSLER	DEVFVPKQKS	AIKWYGKYL-	NNPLGRIMML	TVOFVLGWPL	200
BNFAD2	151	HHSNTGSLER	DEVFVPR-RS	QTSSGTAST-	STTFGRVML	TVQFTLWGPL	200
GMFAD2-1	151	HHSNTGSLDR	DEVFVPKPKS	KVAWFSKYL-	NNPLGRAVSL	LVTLTIGWPM	200
GMFAD2-2	151	HHSNTGSLER	DEVFVPKQKS	CIKWYSKYL-	NNPPGRVLT	AVTLTLGWPL	200
ZMFAD2	151	HHSNTGSLER	DEVFVPKKKE	ALPWYTPYVY	NNPVGRVWHI	VVOLTIGWPL	200
RCFAD2	151	HHSNTGSLER	DEVFVPKKKS	SIRWYSKYL-	NNPPGRIMTI	AVTLSLWGPL	200
		210	220	230	240	250	
LFFAH12	201	YLAFNVSGRP	YDG-FASHFF	PHAPIFKDRE	RLQIYISDAG	ILAVCYGLYR	250
FAH12	201	YLAFNVSGRP	YDR-FACHYD	PYGPIFSERE	RLQIYIADLG	IFATTFVLYQ	250
ATFAD2	201	YLAFNVSGRP	YDG-FACHFF	PNAPIYNDRE	RLQIYLSDAG	ILAVCFGLYR	250
BNFAD2	201	YLAFNVSGRP	YDGGFACHFH	PNAPIYNDRE	RLQIYISDAG	ILAVCYGLLP	250
GMFAD2-1	201	YLAFNVSGRP	YDS-FASHYH	PYAPIYSNRE	RLLIYVSDVA	LFSVTYSLYR	250
GMFAD2-2	201	YLALNVSGRP	YDR-FACHYD	PYGPIYSORE	RLQIYISDAG	VLAVVYGLFR	250
ZMFAD2	201	YLATNASGRP	YPR-FACHFD	PYGPIYNDRE	RAQIFVSDAG	VVAVAFGLYK	250
RCFAD2	201	YLAFNVSGRP	YDR-FACHYD	PYGPIYNDRE	RIEIFISDAG	VLAVTFGLYO	250

Figure 9A

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		260	270	280	290	300	
LFFAH12	251	YAASOGLTAM	ICVYGVPLLI	VNFFLVLVTF	LQHTHPSLPH	YDSTEWEWIR	300
FAH12	251	ATMAKGLAWV	MRIYGVPLLI	VNCFLVMITY	LQHTHPAIPR	YGSSEWDWLR	300
ATFAD2	251	YAAAQGMASM	ICLYGVPLLI	VNAFLVLITY	LQHTHPSLPH	YDSSEWDWLR	300
BNFAD2	251	YAAVOGVASM	VCFLRVPLLI	VNGFLVLITY	LQHTHPSLPH	YDSSEWDWLR	300
GMFAD2-1	251	VATLKGLVWL	LCVYGVPLLI	VNGFLVTITY	LQHTHFALPH	YDSSEWDWLK	300
GMFAD2-2	251	LAMAKGLAWV	VCVYGVPLLV	VNGFLVLITF	LQHTHPALPH	YTSSEWDWLR	300
ZMFAD2	251	LAAAFGVWWV	VRVYAVPLLI	VNAWLVLITY	LQHTHPSLPH	YDSSEWDWLR	300
RCFAD2	251	LAIAKGLAWV	VCVYGVPLLV	VNSFLVLITF	LQHTHPALPH	YDSSEWDWLR	300
		310	320	330	340	350	
LFFAH12	301	GALVTVDRDY	GILNKVFHNI	TDTHVAHHLF	ATIPHYNAME	ATEAIKPILG	350
FAH12	301	GAMVTVDRDY	GVLNKVFHNI	ADTHVAHHLF	ATVPHYHAME	ATKAIKPIMG	350
ATFAD2	301	GALATVDRDY	GILNKVFHNI	TDTHVAHHLF	STMPHYNAME	ATKAIKPILG	350
BNFAD2	301	GALATVDRDY	GILNQGFIHNI	TDTHEAHHLF	STMPHYHAME	ATKAIKPILG	350
GMFAD2-1	301	GALATMDRDY	GILNKVFHHI	TDTHVAHHLF	STMPHYHAME	ATNAIKPILG	350
GMFAD2-2	301	GALATVDRDY	GILNKVFHNI	TDTHVAHHLF	STMPHYHAME	ATKAIKPILG	350
ZMFAD2	301	GALATMDRDY	GILNRVFHNI	TDTHVAHHLF	STMPHYHAME	ATKAIRPILG	350
RCFAD2	301	GALATVDRDY	GILNKVFHNI	TDQVAHHLF	-----	-----	350
		360	370	380	390	400	
LFFAH12	351	DYYHFDGTPW	YVAMYREAKE	CLYVEPOTER	GKKGVYYYNN	K-L.....	400
FAH12	351	EYYRYDGTPT	YKALWREAKE	CLFVEPDEGA	PTQGVFWYRN	KY-.....	400
ATFAD2	351	DYYQFDGTPW	YVAMYREAKE	CIYVEPDREG	DKKGVYWYNN	K-L.....	400
BNFAD2	351	EYYQFDGTPV	VKAMWREAKE	CIYVEPDROG	EKKGVFWYNN	KL*.....	400
GMFAD2-1	351	EYYQFDDTPT	YKALWREARE	CLYVEPDEGT	SEKGVYWYRN	KY-.....	400
GMFAD2-2	351	EYYRFDETPT	VKAMWREARE	CIYVEPDQST	ESKGVFWYNN	KL-.....	400
ZMFAD2	351	DYYHFDPTPV	AKATWREAGE	CIYVEPE---	DRKGVFWYNK	KF*.....	400

Figure 9B

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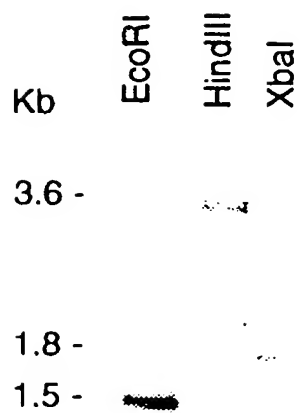
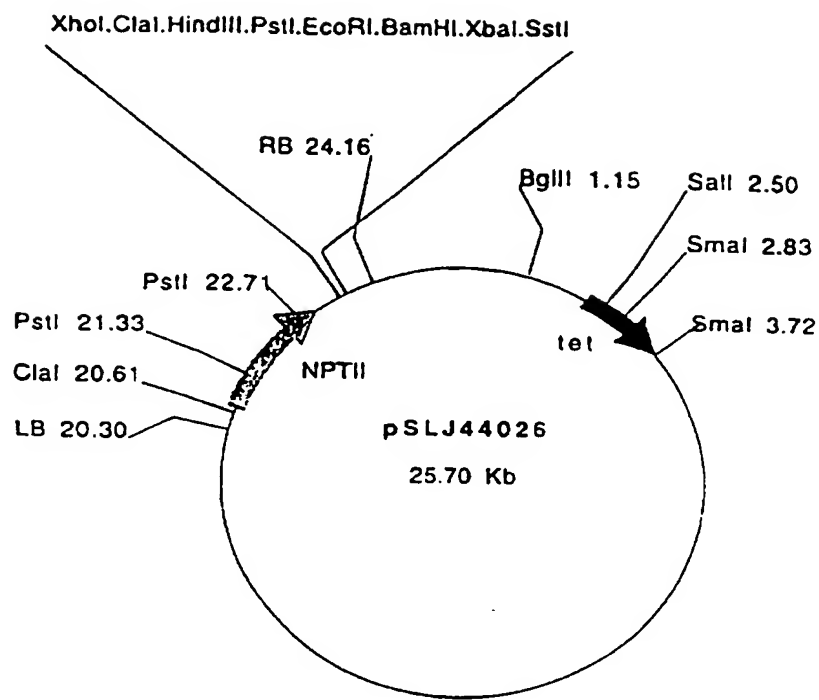


FIG.10

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Plasmid name: pSLJ44026

Plasmid size: 25.70 kb

Constructed by: Jonathon Jones

Construction date: 1992

Comments/References: Transgenic Research 1,285-297 (1992)

Figure 11

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US97/02187

<b>CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC(6) : A01H 5/00, 5/10; C12N 15/52; 15/82 US CL : 800/205, 5/172.3, 419; 536/23.6 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 800/205; 435/172.3, 419; 536/23.6 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) APS, DIALOG		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ---- Y	WO 94/11516 A1 (LIGHTNER et al) 26 May 1994, especially pages 40-44 and 109.	1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 16, 17, 22, 23, 27-34 ----- 2, 4-9, 12-15, 18, 21, 24-26
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "Z" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 03 JUNE 1997		Date of mailing of the international search report 30 JUL 1997
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230		Authorized officer <i>Chue for</i> ELIZABETH F. MCELWAIN Telephone No. (703) 308-0196